



Cabinet to discuss S. Africa sanctions

Jerusalem Post Staff
Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has agreed to Communications Minister Annon Rubinstein raising the question of Israeli sanctions on South Africa at next Sunday's cabinet meeting, Rubinstein told Armed Forces Radio yesterday.

The move comes amid reports that the U.S. will cut aid to Israel, unless Israel halts arms sales to South Africa.

The U.S. State Department has been trying to downplay the importance of a forthcoming presidential report on military cooperation with South Africa by countries receiving U.S. military aid. The report is due to be submitted to Congress on April 1.

A State Department source said yesterday that it is unlikely that the report will have significant results. It will probably cause a stir in the press and then be forgotten, he said.

Although the administration backs the UN-sponsored military embargo on South Africa, the source said he did not anticipate any difficulties between Jerusalem and Washington on the matter. The administration's policy is much more lenient than Congress's, the source said.

Administration sources said yesterday that the compilers of the presidential report — members of the State Department's intelligence unit — are having difficulties collecting data on military ties of various countries with Pretoria, because such information is a heavily guarded secret.

Amal in S. Lebanon shakes up leadership

**By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter**

South Lebanese Amal Shi'ite leader Daoud Daoud and Mahmoud Fakih, commander of the Nabatiya region, have been ousted in a political reshuffle of the Amal leadership, sources in south Lebanon reported. Daoud and Fakih have retained their positions in the Amal national politburo, but no longer exercise regional control.

The sources said it was too early to speculate what the changes portend, although they thought it unlikely there would be any immediate alteration in Amal's policy towards Israel and the security zone.

The reshuffle followed lengthy discussions of the Amal leadership in Beirut which neither Daoud nor Fakih attended.

Under the changes Daoud has been replaced by Abdul Majid Saleh, who now has the title of political leader of the south, while Atef A'oun, president of Amal's executive council has become organizational leader of the region, effectively replacing Fakih as commander of the Nabatiya district.

The reshuffle is supposed to remain in effect for six months, after which the positions are due to be reconsidered.

But as one of the South Lebanese sources put it, "a lot can happen in Lebanon in six months."

Daoud, although no friend of

(Continued on Page 4)

MODERN OFFICE Supplement

Scheduled to appear with today's paper, the Modern Office supplement has been postponed until Thursday. Don't miss it, free with Thursday's

**THE JERUSALEM
POST**



Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek and Hadassah president Ruth Popkin take a ride during the women's Zionist organization's Purim parade in the capital yesterday. (Story, Page 4) (Rahamim Israeli)

Another hat for Gabai

**By MENACHEM SHALEV
Jerusalem Post Reporter**

The troubled Justice Ministry already has a part-time minister who doubles as minister of tourism. As of April 1, its director-general, Meir Gabai, will also be spending half his time elsewhere, as the newly appointed chairman of the Securities Authority.

Gabai's new position is supposed to be a full-time appointment but he will be staying on at the Justice Ministry half-time until a replacement can be found. Minister Avraham Shariar wishes to replace Gabai with Tel Aviv attorney Avraham Barir, a Labour Party member, but the choice is meeting increasing opposition among Likud ministers. Barir himself has said that he will not be able to wind up his business affairs before June or July.

During the upcoming months, therefore, Gabai will serve as both director-general of the Justice Ministry and as chairman of the Securities Authority. Gabai also currently serves as chairman of the Accountants Council, ministry representative to the Ministerial Legislation Committee, government negotiator with Egypt on reparations for the Ras Burka massacre victims, Justice

Ministry coordinator on the Taba negotiations and legal adviser to the Ministerial Committee for Economic Affairs.

Shariar has also recently appointed Gabai to collect all the necessary information on the William Nakash extradition case, although, in practice, nothing is currently being done on this matter.



Meir Gabai (Schenkelbach)

Finance Minister Moshe Nissim has rejected requests to postpone Gabai's appointment to the Securities Authority and insists that Gabai replace outgoing chairman Eliezer Shiloni on April 1.

(Continued on Page 9)

MKs hear of plight of battered women

**By BERNARD JOSEPHS
Jerusalem Post Reporter**

Thousands of women who are beaten by their husbands are the focus of moves by the Knesset's Welfare Committee to toughen the law.

The MKs were presented with horrifying tales of violence and shock statistics by the victims and yesterday the head of a shelter for battered wives said she believed the situation was even worse than that told the MKs.

Committee chairwoman Ora Namir (Alignment) quoted Welfare Ministry estimates showing that 100,000 wives are being beaten — something like one in six of the married women in the country.

"Only an organized, government-run programme can help solve this problem," she said. "The biggest enemy facing wives is the feeling that it can't happen to me."

The meeting last week was the first of a series at which the committee will study ways of dealing with the situation.

Among those present were volunteers who run shelters for battered women, and several of the victims who described their suffering to the committee members.

One woman told them: "I have been beaten for 25 years. My son even absented himself from the army to try to help me. But he ended up being jailed. For years, I was too ashamed to seek help."

Another said: "I will never lose my feeling of fear. Even in the street, I am always looking over my shoulder. Even if one day I manage to forgive my husband, I will never forgive myself for allowing things to reach such a stage."

(Continued on Back Page)

Begun's son arrested

MOSCOW (AFP) — Three Soviet Jews were arrested here yesterday after demonstrating for permission for the wife of one of them to travel abroad for medical treatment.

Boris Begun, son of dissident Hebrew teacher Yosef Begun, who was released from jail last month, as well as Feodor Finkel and his sister Lilia, who have been seeking to emigrate to Israel, called on the

authorities to allow 27-year old Svetlana Finkel to be allowed to travel abroad to be treated for cancer.

Following the half-hour demonstration, the three were driven off by uniformed policemen to an undisclosed destination.

Finkel and his sister, who have been on a month-long hunger strike, yesterday wrote the Soviet authorities to explain their action.

Rabin also deplores blaming of American Jewry

'No more spying on U.S.'

Echoes of the affair continue to resound

Jerusalem Post Staff

The repercussions of the Pollard affair on future Israel-U.S. relations are likely to be even more far-reaching than presently anticipated in Jerusalem, according to well-informed American sources.

The Pollard affair, and even more so the inept handling of its aftermath by Israel's leaders, have induced a process of corrosion at the very base of America's traditional friendship towards Israel, according to a highly knowledgeable U.S. source.

What aggravated matters was Israel's utter lack of sensitivity towards America's shock and revulsion over the fact that a close friend and ally like Israel could have employed a spy at the very core of the U.S. intelligence community.

Moreover, the Israel government failed to live up to its promise that those responsible for the Pollard affair will be held accountable, these sources explained.

It was indeed the promotion of Air Force Col. Aviem Sella towards the end of Prime Minister Shamir's visit in the U.S. last month and several days before Pollard was sentenced which triggered off the current wave of protest and bitterness. This came after quiet protest by ranking U.S. officials against the earlier promotion of Rafi Eitan had proved of no avail.

Although both official Washington and Jerusalem are likely to make every effort now to play down the impact of the Pollard affair, it will take a long time before mutual trust and confidence can be restored, these sources held.

According to Justice Department sources, the investigation continues into allegations that Israel had employed additional agents to obtain intelligence information apart from Pollard.

Meanwhile, Morris B. Abram, (Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

Jerusalem Post Staff
Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday denied that Israel was continuing to spy on the U.S. and said American Jews should not be made to suffer for the Pollard espionage affair.

"Israel doesn't carry out any espionage activities in the U.S. There are no Americans or non-Americans who serve as spies for Israel against the U.S.," Rabin told members of the Hadassah Diamond Jubilee Mission in Jerusalem. The mission's members had gathered to rededicate Hadassah's Mt. Scopus Hospital, 20 years after its recovery in the Six-Day War.

Kabin was responding to a *Washington Post* report widely quoted in the Israeli press that U.S. investigators became suspicious during their questioning of convicted spy Jonathan Jay Pollard that Israel had another agent in the American intelligence network.

However, Rabin was less emphatic in rejecting reports that the intelligence unit which recruited Pollard also used other Americans to carry on espionage against the U.S.

"I believe it's not true. So far, no one can present any proof... that there are others involved in the spy scandal," Rabin said.

Rabin went on to say that a key figure in the prosecution of Pollard had said to two defence lawyers separately: "Sella can be chief of the Israel Air Force if you give us another name." (The reference was to Air Force Colonel Aviem Sella who recruited Pollard).

Rabin recalled that in November, 1985, then premier Shimon Peres had spoken with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and had apolo-



U.S. Secretary of the Army John Marsh (left) is greeted yesterday by Aluf Amos Yaron, Israeli military attaché in the U.S., while U.S. ambassador Thomas Pickering looks on (story below). (Reuter telephoto)

gized in the names of Peres, of then foreign minister Yitzhak Shamir and in his, Rabin's, name, for the use of Pollard. They also explained that the unit handling Pollard had acted without the knowledge of the government and in clear opposition to its policy. They promised Schultz complete cooperation in the investigation of Pollard's crimes, including the right to examine all Israeli assets as witnesses, after giving them immunity.

Furthermore, Israel delivered back to the U.S. all the documents the unit had received from Pollard, and revealed all information of any kind in Israel's possession.

"I think our actions were without precedent on the part of any government," Rabin declared. It was on the strength of the material, documents and statements provided by Israel that the Americans were able to get Pollard to confess that he carried out espionage, and it was on the basis of this material and confession that Pollard was convicted, Rabin continued.

"Later on, questions were put to us about Col. Sella. He and his lawyer Haim Zadok demanded that he be questioned after immunity was given to him. The prosecution refused to give him immunity before

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

U.S. army boss arrives at a critical moment

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT

TEL AVIV. — U.S. Secretary of the Army John Marsh arrived yesterday for a five-day visit whose timing may be as important as the trip itself, coming as it does in the wake of the Pollard spy trial.

The secretary's C-20 executive jet touched down at Ben-Gurion Airport shortly before 3:30 p.m. He was met by Israel's military attaché in Washington, Aluf Amos Yaron, and the U.S. embassy's staff headed by U.S. ambassador Thomas Pickering.

Yaron later stressed the importance of Marsh's visit in the shadow of the Pollard affair, during an interview with Israel Radio yesterday.

Contributing to the air of "business nearly as usual," Pickering said that apart from the ban on contacts with Aluf-Mishne Aviem Sella (Pollard's handler) and on visits to the Tel Nof air base (which Sella commands), "there's no special change in our relationship as of now."

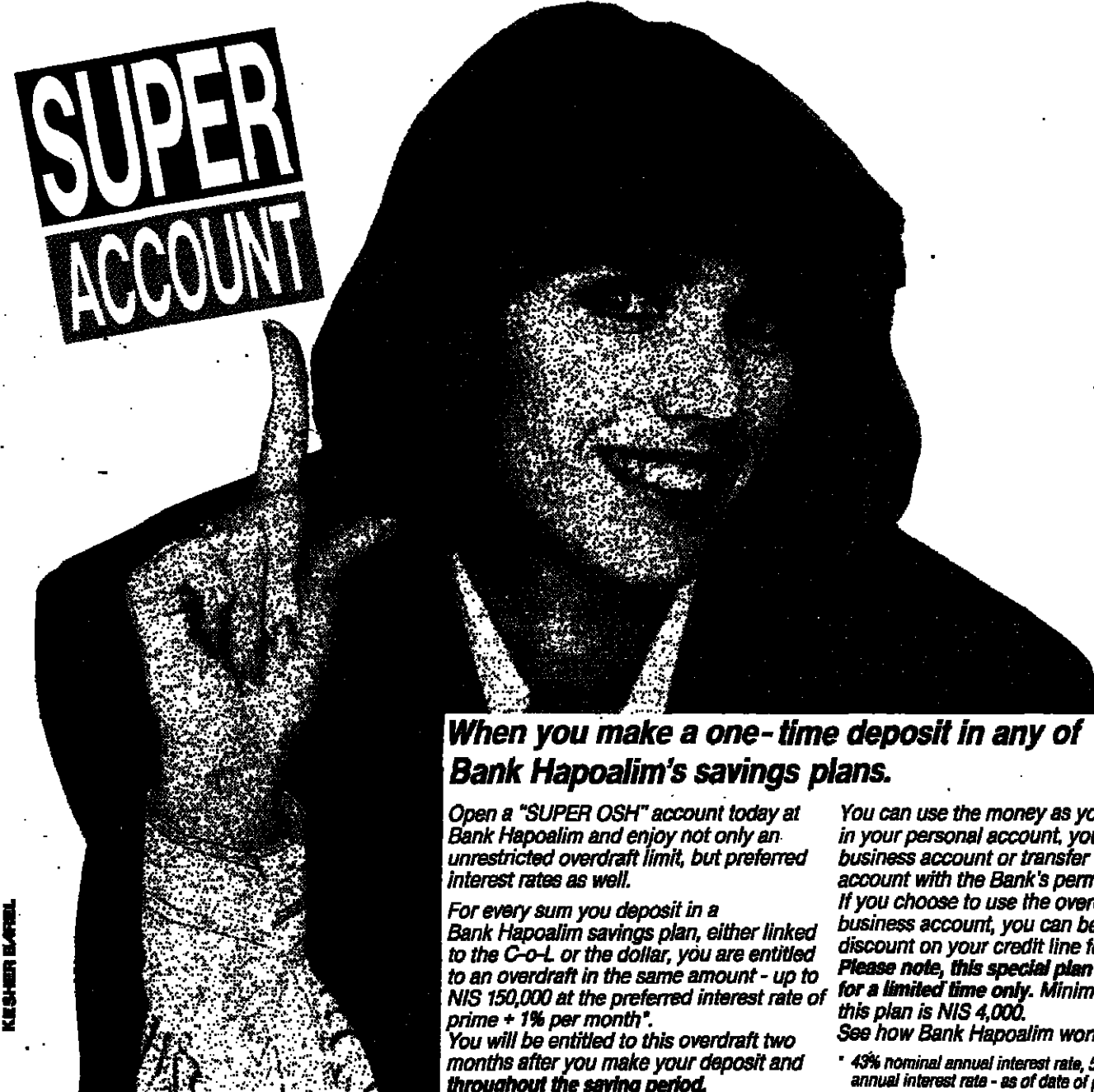
Marsh's visit "is not to have anything to do with the Pollard affair, but to continue with the long-planned visit and carry that out. Obviously, he is here as a friend," the ambassador told reporters.

Marsh is scheduled this morning to meet Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin at the ministry's offices in Tel Aviv and receive briefings from senior IDF commanders.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

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Major American Jewish Organizations

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The weather at major Swissair destinations

	16.3.86	MIN.	C	F	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	-6	21	4	39	Cloudy	
BRUSSELS	-5	22	4	39	Clear	
BURNING ANGERS	-4	23	26	79	Clear	
CHICAGO	0	32	8	49	Cloudy	
COLOGNE	-1	32	8	49	Cloudy	
FRANKFURT	-7	19	6	43	Cloudy	
GENEVA	-8	33	5	41	Clear	
HONG KONG	-2	33	28	82	Cloudy	
JOHANNESBURG	17	63	38	98	Clear	
LEON	0	32	8	49	Cloudy	
LOVANS	3	31	29	85	Cloudy	
MALDEN	-1	34	17	63	Clear	
MUNICH	-1	34	8	49	Cloudy	
NEW YORK	1	34	8	49	Cloudy	
ORLO	-4	33	2	33	News	
PARIS	-1	34	8	49	Cloudy	
SAO PAULO	36	98	29	84	Cloudy	
ST. PAUL	19	66	28	82	Cloudy	
TOKYO	-1	34	8	49	Cloudy	
TORONTO	-3	27	3	37	Clear	
WELLINGTON	-1	34	8	49	Cloudy	
ZURICH	-2	33	6	43	News	

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy with occasional scattered showers.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	High/Low	High/Low	High/Low
Jerusalem	55/41	4-13	14
Cairo	65/45	-11/12	12
Nahariya	77/65	1-8	10
Safed	68/58	6-16	17
Haifa Port	73/63	4-16	17
Tiberias	58/48	1-16	17
Neve Shimon	51/41	3-13	14
Shimon	57/47	8-17	17
B-G Airport	36/26	6-16	17
Jericho	45/35	6-20	20
Gaza	52/42	8-18	18
Beersheva	28/18	4-18	19
Ellat	19/9	10-24	23

In Memoriam

A memorial marking the 15th anniversary of the death of Moshe Saeh, a former commander of the Haganah, was held last night at the Tzavta Hall in Tel Aviv.

ARRIVALS

Hymen Bookbinder, special representative in Washington and Dr. George Gruen, director, Israel and Middle East Affairs Department of the American Jewish Committee.

Officer who helped Jews here for visit

NAHARIYA (Itim). - A former German officer, who 44 years ago saved two Jewish girls from almost certain death, arrived here yesterday to meet one of the women he saved.

Ludwig Zolner, 66, now an Austrian pensioner, was serving in Yugoslavia when he was assigned to lead a group of soldiers to arrest Zolta Shultheiss and her cousin who were suspected of collaborating with the Partisans.

After searching the Shultheiss home, Zolner realized the two were not involved with the Partisans and that their only crime was being Jewish. He knew that if he arrested them they would end up in concentration camps.

Instead he issued them a certificate stating that they had never engaged in anti-Germans activity. With the help of the certificate they were able to escape, and Zolta eventually settled in Nahariya.

After the war Zolner returned to Innsbruck, and the two did not meet until last year when Zolta visited Austria.

Peace Now criticizes police inaction

By JOEL GREENBERG

The Peace Now movement yesterday charged that police in the West Bank are delaying prosecution of settlers involved in violence against movement supporters near Hebron last year, and warned it may apply to the High Court of Justice to seek indictments.

In a letter to Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev, spokesman Amiram Goldblum said the file on the incident near Hebron last April had apparently been closed. No testimony had been taken from Peace Now members, and only minor charges had been brought against settlers whose actions reportedly included stone throwing, barricading of roads, shooting in the air and planting a small explosive charge under the wheel of a Peace Now bus.

Ya'acobi blasts government's performance

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Economics Minister Gad Ya'acobi did not mention the Labour Party leader by name, but it was obvious that Shimon Peres was the target of many of the political arrows he aimed in a press conference in Tel Aviv yesterday.

Ya'acobi warned that the "disintegration of the political systems is endangering the stability of democratic rule" in Israel.

He condemned the government's "faulty" handling of the Pollard spy scandal "from the point that the affair was uncovered" (Peres was prime minister when Pollard was apprehended).

The "mechanistic dispute" over the convening of an international peace conference had obscured the dispute over the real substance of a potential peace agreement, he said.

Ya'acobi blasted the "smugness" emanating from the government and from Labour over the achievements of the government's economic policies. "This is a deception of the public," he said. In reality Israel faces "very difficult and very threatening" economic problems.

Ya'acobi even challenged terms coined by Peres. He said that he could not accept the term "authentic" to describe Palestinians who would participate in peace talks with Israel, and preferred the word "representative."

Relations between Israel and world Jewry, both in the West and in "countries of distress," were undergoing a "real crisis," he said.

Ya'acobi, who supported the establishment of a judicial commission of inquiry to investigate the Pollard affair, said that the government should commit itself to adopting the recommendations of its appointed investigating team.

The claim "which I've heard from my colleagues" that the political echelon was not responsible for the Pollard affair was, he said, "self contradictory by elementary logic." If the operators were acting on their own, he asked, why were they promoted? And if they were promoted because they had acted on authority from higher up, then it's obvious that someone higher up was, in fact, responsible.

"Flawed decision making" had been evident in the government's handling of the Pollards, Irangate and Shin Bet (General Security Service) affair, said Ya'acobi.

He said that instead of always reacting to current events, the Labour Party must present a "national planning scheme" to the public.

He asserted that "mediocrity" had become the most important trait in political life. Political leadership is characterized by "faulty decision-making and evasion of responsibility," he said. Breaching agreements had become "a norm" in Israel's

political culture, he said, mentioning Ezer Weizman's Yahad party's threat to bolt Labour and the "enormous pressure" needed for Labour to approve its merger agreement with Yahad. He also noted that "most of the clauses" of the Likud-Labour agreement signed on the eve of the rotation had not been kept.

Ya'acobi refused to comment on his foiled nomination as Israeli ambassador to Washington except to say that "as an Israeli - and not as the subject - I am very sorry that the matter was handled in such a way." Ya'acobi withdrew his candidacy for the post last week.

Ya'acobi addressed a wide range of political issues: he spoke of the need for "reform" in the Jewish Agency and the Zionist movement; said that he would initiate the establishment of a public committee to defend democracy in Israel; reiterated his proposal for a one-sided autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza; and said that the neglect of the development towns was contrary to "natural justice."

He sounded like a candidate for something but maintained that Peres's leadership presently remains unchallenged. "There might be [a challenge] in the future, perhaps before the next elections," he said. Ya'acobi did not elaborate on who the potential challenger to Peres might be, but judging by his press conference yesterday, he might have some ideas.

Aid for Pollards campaign to halt

By SIMON LOUISON

For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. - The Citizens for the Pollards group is to disband and stop all money-raising activities at the end of the week following indications that the Israeli government will defray the family's court and other costs.

The decision was taken following a radio news item yesterday morning in which a government source indicated that the government has transferred \$75,000 to the Pollards and that further costs will be covered.

The group, which was formed last week, "expressed satisfaction" at the announcement but said it was sorry that it had been compelled to expose the pain of the Pollards' parents and pressure the government to force it to do what should have been done from the outset.

The seven-man group's main activity was to raise money and support through newspaper advertisements.

One of the group's members, Joshua Giboa, said the group had checked last week with Jonathan Pollard's father about the family's financial position, and at that stage nothing had been mentioned about the Israeli government covering costs.

Giboa believes that it was the formation of the group and the "massive" public support it received which prompted the government to act.

Asked about the report of Israel's assistance to the Pollards, Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Ehud Gol replied: "We know nothing about it."

Jonathan Pollard's father, Prof. Morris Pollard, said yesterday that he had not received any formal notification about financial aid from the Israeli government to cover his son's legal expenses.

He told Israel Radio that he heard that money had been transferred to Jonathan's lawyer only from the media.

He said the Israeli authorities' attitude had caused the family great pain, adding: "God protect us from arrogant and stupid politicians."

Prof. Pollard said he had talked to his son on the phone, and that he was in good condition.

Zvi Tsur admits Lekem background

Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. - Rav-Aluf (res.) Zvi Tsur, one of the two members of the panel investigating the Pollard affair on behalf of the cabinet, yesterday denied a conflict of interests even though he had once been responsible for the Lekem unit that years later had employed Jonathan Pollard as a spy.

Tsur had been chief of general staff in the early 1960s and became responsible for Lekem - the Science Liaison Bureau - as assistant to defence minister Moshe Dayan in 1967-1974.

Tsur has argued that the panel's brief was to examine the Pollard affair, which began nearly a decade after he left the Defence Ministry.

Thus, there was no conflict of interests on his part, Tsur stressed. Moreover, it is an asset having a person familiar with the Lekem unit and the intelligence system serve on a committee examining the affair, he told The Post.

The other member of the cabinet-appointed panel is attorney Yehoshua Rotenstreich.

IN BRIEF

El Al is tops

TEL AVIV. - El Al has been rated as one of the world's five most preferred airlines, according to a recent British survey.

The British consumer magazine Which asked nearly 15,000 passengers to rate their last flight with regard to catering, comfort and service. They were also asked whether they would recommend the airline. El Al, which had 67 respondents, placed fifth behind Wardair (Canada), Cathay Pacific, Swissair and Singapore Airlines.

Among the lowest rated airlines in the survey were Aeroflot, TWA and Pan American.

Purim vandals busy

TEL AVIV (Itim). - Vandals broke into a synagogue here early yesterday morning, desecrated the religious books and robbed the collection boxes set in the wall.

In Safed, vandals apparently used a pass-key to let themselves in to the Beth El synagogue on Sunday and stole phylacteries, tzitzit (fringed garments) and charity boxes.

In another incident yesterday, passers-by discovered swastikas smeared on a building on Rehov Trumpeldor in Tel Aviv.

Skiers flock to Hermon

NEVE ATIV (Itim). - Some 2,500 visitors flocked to Mount Hermon yesterday as storms abated and the weather improved.

Children wearing Purim costumes slid down the slopes alongside skiers who found 12 metres of snow. The heavy snowfall of recent days is expected to continue to lure Israelis to the site in the coming weeks.

Fans greet tennis champs

TEL AVIV. - Hordes of enthusiastic fans drowned the Israeli tennis team in champagne and flowers on their arrival yesterday at Ben-Gurion airport.

Amos Mansdorf did not return with the team, because he is participating in another match abroad.

Education Minister Yitzhak Navon was among the fans who greeted the players on their triumphant return from Davis Cup competition in Czechoslovakia.

Students' torchlight demo

Several dozen students carrying burning torches demonstrated last night outside Finance Minister Nissim's house, to protest against the planned raise in university tuition fees, Israel Radio reported.

Students at the Ben-Gurion University in Beersheba are to strike today.

Sharon at Meitar

MEITAR (Itim). - Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon was the guest of honour at yesterday's cornerstone-laying ceremony at this settlement, located south of the Hebron Hills.

Sharon, who was one of the initiators of the settlement, which is now beginning its second stage, said he believed that Jews and Arabs could live peacefully together if they treated each other with respect.



Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations shares a light moment with Foreign Minister Peres during their meeting yesterday in Jerusalem. (Brian Hendler)

ECHOES

(Continued from Page One)

chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said the Pollard affair "although a serious problem, is a blip (that does not) reflect the mainstream of American-Israeli relations."

Speaking to reporters after a meeting with Foreign Minister Peres, Abram said he was "convinced (the Israeli) government will act responsibly with respect to the decisions of the commission it appointed" to investigate the spy scandal.

"This is an extremely serious matter, the spying of an American citizen for a foreign government. He was tried in an American court. He received due process of law and his sentence was in accordance with due process of law," Abram said. "However... I'm convinced this problem will go away."

Abram said that the main concern of the American Jewish community following the Pollard affair is the image of Israel in the U.S.

While praising the cabinet's decision to set up the panel of inquiry, he indicated that more steps are needed.

Peres said that Israel is well aware of the mistake that had been made and had apologized for it to the U.S. government. He reiterated that the government intends to abide by the conclusions of the Rotenstreich-Tsur panel.

Peres said that the Tower report commission had dismissed all the reports in the U.S. media alleging that Israel had acted wrongly in connection with the sale of arms to Iran. According to Peres, Israel should now "fill its relationship with the U.S. with positive content" by intensifying the activities relating to the peace process.

Asher Wolfish adds:

Meanwhile, the Knesset subcommittee for intelligence and security services yesterday held its third session on the Pollard affair.

The subcommittee of the Foreign

Hungary wants to improve commercial, cultural ties

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Hungary is interested in improving its relations with Israel mainly in the field of commerce and culture. Dr. Jeno Rande, secretary of the World Federation of Hungarians said yesterday in a meeting with the Foreign Ministry's political director-general Yossi Beilin.

Rande stressed that he did not carry with him any message from the Hungarian government and that he was here as guest of the Israeli Association for Advancement of Relations with Hungary. In the absence of diplomatic relations between the

two countries, the World Federation of Hungarians is ready to assist as a channel of communication between Jerusalem and Budapest, he said.

The visitor, who served in the early '70s as his country's ambassador to Cairo, asked Beilin about diplomatic developments in the Middle East, but was careful not to present his country's positions on them.

After the meeting, Beilin told reporters that if there is development towards renewing relations with Eastern bloc countries, "Hungary will not be last in line."



Egyptian women walk past the Israeli pavilion at Cairo's international trade fair yesterday. Israel participated this year despite last year's shooting which killed one Israeli woman embassy employee outside the fair complex. (Reuters telephoto)

RABIN

(Continued from Page One)

questioning and he was not allowed by his lawyer to be questioned without immunity," Rabin said.

The Israel government could not understand why the Pollard case was dragged out for so long after Pollard had confessed and why there were four postponements of the trial, Rabin continued. He implied that there was a sinister reason behind these delays and that somebody in the American administration or the Justice Department does not believe that what was said by the Israeli leaders in November, 1985, was

true, although they had affirmed it many times since.

He re-emphasized that Israel has no spies, American or Israeli, Jews or non-Jews, working against America. But he warned the members of Hadassah that they must expect that the issue has not ended with the Pollard case, in the light of the obvious determination of some people to create tension between the two governments.

He called on Hadassah members to play their traditional role of being loyal Americans and devoted friends of Israel at the same time.

U.S. ARMY CHIEF

(Continued from Page One)

After that, he is to visit Army, Air Force and Navy units.

In their talks with Marsh, Israeli officials will undoubtedly try to strengthen strategic cooperation with the U.S. Army. Relations have been particularly close with the U.S. Air Force. Units of the Navy's Sixth Fleet have come here regularly and contacts with the U.S. intelligence establishment have been strong. Ties with the U.S. Army, however, have been relatively weaker, sources here said.

But it was also clear yesterday that

business was not all as usual. After Marsh, his wife and two aides stepped off the plane, the ambassador led the secretary to his limousine, frustrating reporters' attempts to interview Marsh. Only after the secretary was in the car did Pickering volunteer to answer questions.

The Americans had also sought to avoid any advance publicity on Marsh's visit.

Explaining this reluctance, a U.S. diplomat said it was "a matter of routine policy" not to announce such plans unless they involved a public display at the airport requiring extra security measures.

We mourn the death of

VICTOR BACH

one of the founders of the PIA Company and its board chairman for many years.

PIA - Leumi
Directors and Management

With profound sorrow, we announce the death of our darling beloved wife, mother, grandmother and sister

CLARICE GHITA MINKOWITCH

Eldest daughter of the late Becky and Maurice Gridinger

The funeral will take place at the Morasha Cemetery, Ramat Hasharon, today, Tuesday, March 17, 1987, at 2 p.m.

We shall meet at the cemetery gate.

Mourning by:

Her husband: Gershon Minkowitch L.L.B.
Daughters and sons-in-law:
Rika and Baruch Engel
Ephrat and Avi Shapira
Shoshana and Moshe Wexler
Sisters and brother:
Rene Gazit and family
Kitty and Zvi Shapira and family
C. Kenny Gridinger and family
Dikhe and Natan Zimerman and family
Grandchildren: Gilli, Hillel, Einat, Noa,
Itai, Guy, Amit, Motti and Leor
and her family in Israel and abroad



Hair, lots of hair - it was something to skip about for seven-year-old Melissa Gayler, winner of the children's prize for the longest hair (70 centimetres) in a competition held in London yesterday. "Full-length" winner was Marie Benson (left), 43, with 178cm. of flowing hair, followed by Tracey Blockwell, 14, with 145cm. (Reuters)

Weinberger opens talks on U.S. bases in Spain

MADRID (AFP). - U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger met with King Juan Carlos here yesterday at the start of a three-day official visit.

Officials here remained tight-lipped about the subjects discussed, saying only that Weinberger was on a "routine" visit of several Nato countries.

After Madrid, Weinberger is due to travel to Turkey and Portugal.

Observers here said one of the main aims of Weinberger's visit was to give impetus to the stalled talks on a Spanish request for a reduction of the 12,500 U.S. troops stationed in Spain.

The main sticking point at the talks, which began seven months

ago, has been the 72 U.S. F-16 fighter-bombers stationed at the Torrejon de Ardoz base, near Madrid.

Spain wants the planes removed, but Washington views their continued deployment as vitally important. U.S. diplomatic sources here said.

Weinberger arrived here Sunday several hours after tens of thousands of radical anti-war activists marched to the Torrejon base, largest of the four that the U.S. maintains in Spain, to demonstrate against the American military presence in the country.

The Defence Secretary was due to confer with Defence Minister Narcis Serra and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez later yesterday.

Big blast at plant in China kills 45

PEKING (Reuters). - A huge explosion in a steel factory in the northeast city of Harbin killed 45 workers and injured 185, the official China Legal News reported yesterday.

The newspaper said the explosion, in the early hours of Sunday, destroyed four buildings at the plant.

More than 470 workers were in the factory at the time of the explosion. Doctors specializing in burns were rushed to Harbin to help treat the injured.

The cause of the blast was still being investigated, the paper said, and gave no further details.

The mill was built in the 1950's with Soviet aid, and it is currently one of 17 enterprises being updated with the help of Soviet experts under an agreement between Peking and Moscow.

Soviet dam bursts - 19 dead

MOSCOW (AP). - Torrential rains and mudslides destroyed a dam in southern Tadzhikistan yesterday, killing 19 people and leaving nine missing, the Tass news agency reported.

Another six people were hospitalized in serious condition, according to Tass. It said that after heavy rain and mudslides destroyed the dam, water from a reservoir swept through the village of Sargasan.

Tass reported from the Dangara region near the border with Afghanistan that "a critical situation has taken shape" in the Kulyab and Dangara agricultural areas, where 53 houses, a livestock-breeding farm and a poultry farm were swept away.

Austrians admit anti-Semitism

VIENNA (Reuters). - Seven out of 100 Austrians are self-declared anti-Semites, according to a survey carried out by the country's four major opinion poll institutes and made public yesterday.

The survey sponsored by the Austrian National Bank showed, however, that about one-third of all Austrians are prejudiced against foreigners generally.

Aquino orders militias to disband

MANILA (AP). - President Corason Aquino has ordered the disbanding of the paramilitary Civilian Home Defence Force and vigilante groups armed by the military to fight Communist rebels, the palace announced yesterday.

A statement by the presidential press office said Aquino on Friday directed Local Government Secretary Jaime Ferrer and Defence Secretary Rafael Ilo to take immediate steps to disband all private armies and other armed groups, including the CHDF, the only group specifically named in the order.

Government television said the order also will affect vigilante groups such as Alsa Masa and Nakasaka, which have received the military's support to combat Communist guerrillas in Mindanao.

The President cited an article in the newly ratified constitution that calls for such groups to be disbanded or integrated into the armed forces.

Military officials estimate more than 260 private armies are operating across the nation. Previous governments have failed to curb such groups, some of which are used by regional military commanders against Communist and Moslem rebels.

The acting chairman of Alsa Masa, Juan Porras Pala, told the Associated Press from Davao City that the group would resist such an order, because a government that issued it "would be communist."

Political analysts said Aquino's move risked offending the military,

who the President has recently tried hard to woo. A senior Aquino adviser told journalists privately that acceptance of the vigilantes was part of a political trade-off with the army.

But army spokesman Colonel Honesto Isleta yesterday told Reuters: "She is commander-in-chief of all armed forces and we will follow her orders."

Secretary Ferrer and senior military commanders have praised the success of Alsa Masa and Nakasaka in curbing rebel activities in Davao city and Davao del Sur province in Mindanao. But some senior military officials, speaking on condition they not be identified, have expressed concern about human-rights abuses by the vigilantes and fears that the groups may be difficult to control.

Human rights groups have accused the 40,000-member CHDF of frequent abuses, but the military says the CHDF is important in fighting Communist rebels.

In the latest clash, the military said police killed three communist rebels as a guerrilla force prepared to raid a town hall some 40km. north west of Manila.

Suspected Communist rebels, meanwhile yesterday shot dead an air force sergeant in a busy commercial district of the capital, bringing to eight the number of police and military officers killed in a wave of assassinations in Manila in two weeks. A police spokesman said two gunmen shot Sgt. Dominador Galera in the head when he came out of a car repair shop. (AP, Reuters)



Soldiers inspect the body of Sgt. Dominador Calera, shot dead by an alleged communist hit squad yesterday as he came out of an auto repair shop in Manila's Pasay district. (Reuters)

Dissidents urge West to be wary of 'glasnost'

By DAVID HOROVITZ

Jerusalem Post Correspondent LONDON. - Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's latest policy changes are cosmetic and superficial, and the West is wrong to applaud them so readily, 10 Soviet dissidents argued yesterday in a joint article in *The Times*.

While welcoming the past year's release of a number of human rights activists, the 10 believed that this was only a "gesture... if the Kremlin is really undergoing a change of heart, why not declare a general amnesty for all prisoners of conscience?" they asked.

The 10 dissidents - including Yuri Orlov, Eduard Kuznetsov and Vladimir Bukovsky - were dismissive too of the much-vaunted *glasnost* (openness) policy. As implemented

thus far, it simply "makes a virtue out of necessity," since "it has become senseless for the Kremlin to maintain a huge and costly internal propaganda machine whose products are believed by few."

Real *glasnost* would involve genuine public debate in which everyone could participate, without fear of punishment, they said. "Instead, the party maintains its monopoly on the truth, the order being that for the moment truth must be critical of the regime. Such an order could be countermanded tomorrow."

Only the abandonment of Communist dogma could turn the "graveyard" Soviet Union around, since "70 years of doctrine have brought to ruin one of the richest countries on earth," they said.

Barbara Walters passed message from arms dealer

WASHINGTON (AP). - Iranian arms dealer Manucher Ghorbanifar passed a message to the White House through ABC television interviewer Barbara Walters that describe payments to Iranian officials in connection with U.S. arms sales, according to a published report.

Walters was asked by Ghorbanifar to pass the private message to President Ronald Reagan. It dealt with the alleged payments to an Iranian faction headed by the Ayatollah Montazeri, the *Wall Street Journal* reported yesterday.

Walters interviewed Ghorbanifar

and Saudi businessman Adnan Khashoggi last December following disclosures that the U.S. states had been selling arms to Iran in an apparent arms-for-hostages arrangement.

If the *Journal* report is confirmed, the information could assist federal investigators seeking to trace missing funds from the sale of U.S. arms to Iran.

The White House later said that during December and January it received documents generally fitting the description of notes Walters reportedly relayed from Ghorbanifar, and they "were passed on to the Tower board."

French hostage's fate unknown

BEIRUT (Reuters). - An approximate deadline set by a kidnap group for the "execution" yesterday of a French hostage in Lebanon passed without word from his pro-Iranian captors.

The Revolutionary Justice Organization, in a statement delivered at 1800 GMT on Saturday, said Jean-Louis Normandin was "on trial" and it would announce his "execution" within 48 hours unless France responded satisfactorily to its demands.

No new statement had come from

the group after the deadline passed at 1800 GMT yesterday.

A top Lebanese Shi'ite Moslem religious leader said earlier he believed Normandin's life would be spared and UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar appealed for his release.

Sheikh Mohammed Mehdi Shamseddin, vice-president of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council, said in a newspaper interview published today, "I cannot say that I have been promised, but I can deduce from the results of our efforts and those of others that his safety is more likely."

Terrorist survivor says squad sought to hijack Israeli plane

ROME (Reuters). - The sole survivor of a four-man terrorist squad which killed 13 people at Rome airport in December 1985 has said they had planned to hijack an Israeli plane but not to open fire in the airport.

Ibrahim Mahmood Khaled, 19, was speaking in an interview in the Rome jail with Italian Television, which will be broadcast today. Excerpts were released to the press yesterday.

In the interview, Khaled denied any links with Abu Nidal, the Palestinian terrorist faction head charged with responsibility for the attack,

and said the group's intention was to hijack an Israeli airliner. But Khaled said they considered it a suicide operation: "Even if we had taken the plane our destiny would not have changed."

He said the group's weapons were inside their luggage but they pulled them out and began firing because an Israeli security man opened fire on them.

Investigating magistrates said in their report that the terrorists began firing and throwing hand grenades without any warning to passengers and others waiting near U.S. and El Al airline check-in counters.

Red Army terrorist gets life term in W. Germany

DUSSELDORF (Reuters). - A West German court yesterday sentenced a leading member of the outlawed Red Army Faction (RAF) to life imprisonment for his part in a terror campaign during the late 1970s.

The Dusseldorf High Court jailed Rolf Clemens Wagner for the murder of five people including leading businessman Hans-Martin Schleyer, who was kidnapped by the ultra-left wing guerrilla group in 1977.

It was the second time Wagner, 42, had been tried for his part in the kidnap-murder of Schleyer, the chairman of the West German Employers' Association, and the killing of four of the industrialist's bodyguards.

A Dusseldorf court gave Wagner two life sentences on the same charges in June 1985 but the Federal Court of Appeals ordered a retrial, ruling that tape-recorded evidence submitted by the prosecution during the original trial was inadmissible.

Wagner was also convicted of murder by a Swiss court in 1980 for

killing a passer-by during a bank raid in Zurich. He was extradited from Switzerland to attend the first trial and is expected to be returned to Swiss custody to serve the rest of his 15-year sentence there before starting his jail term in West Germany.



Rolf Clemens Wagner (Reuters)

'Where the Boys Are'

Fear of Aids at Florida spring fete

FORT LAUDERDALE (Reuters). - Students flocking to Fort Lauderdale for the annual spring holiday ritual of sun, sex and beer are finding something new this year: free condoms and a warning against the dangers of Aids.

Despite objections from some city officials, volunteers from a local Aids counselling centre have begun patrolling the strip - a 1.6 kilometre-long stretch of sleazy oceanfront bars and souvenir shops - in a campaign to raise students' awareness of the deadly disease.

The city has long been a destination for students on spring break, as the holidays in late

winter and early spring are known, and volunteers plan to spend the season among the beer-guzzling youths, handing out thousands of condoms and distributing pamphlets about Aids. The 1960 film *Where the Boys Are* was made about the Eastern vacation ritual here.

"These kids are not here to sell girl scout cookies. They're here to drink and have sex, and that makes this a potential breeding ground for Aids," said the Reverend Fred Tondalo, director of Aids Centre One, the private counselling centre undertaking the drive.

But some Fort Lauderdale officials and religious leaders have condemned the condom-distributing campaign, complaining that it has damaged the city's reputation and promotes promiscuity among young revellers.

"Everybody in town is embarrassed," said City Commissioner Doug Danziger. "Whatever happened to good, old-fashioned abstinence as the way to prevent sexual disease?"

City officials expect more than 300,000 students to swarm to the beaches here this year to take part in the massive beach party and rowdy rites of spring - wet t-shirt contests, beer-

chugging matches and casual sex.

The spring break "Safe Sex" Campaign, Tondalo said, is designed to inform youth about the rising incidence of Aids in the general heterosexual population.

Nevertheless, the plan's critics insist that distributing free condoms to holidaymakers - some as young as 16 years old - will only encourage sexual activity.

"It's a ludicrous objection," Tondalo said. "The atmosphere of spring break is so permissive already that the introduction of a free condom isn't likely to drive a college student to sexual perversion."

Seoul's tough Aids stand

SEOUL. - South Korea may soon enact the world's harshest law against Aids, in a contest of escalating severity in Asia, even though only one of its people is confirmed to have died from the disease.

Aids patients and virus carriers will be banned from working in public-contact areas, said Kim Moon Fik, director of the Acute

Communicable Disease Control Unit. Foreigners applying for long-term visas will need medical certificates showing they are Aids-free.

The employment ban will cover service industries such as restaurants and entertainment spots. Those forced to leave their jobs will be supported afterwards at state expense. (OFNS)

Beth Hatefutsoth

The Nahum Goldmann Museum of the Jewish Diaspora

The Synagogue in the Jewish World

A study evening, following the publication of the Beth Hatefutsoth book

The Story of the Synagogue, by Dr. Geoffrey Wigoder

Participants: Rabbi Pinhas Peil, Dr. Geoffrey Wigoder
Wednesday, March 18, 1987, at 7:00 p.m.
The study evening will be conducted in English.

ms25-25-22

American Jewish Committee
Martin Rabin Institute - World Council of Synagogues
HEBREW UNIVERSITY FORUM
at the Center for Conservative Judaism
214 Rabot Agron, Jerusalem
Wednesday, March 18, 1987, at 8 p.m.
THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN IDEOLOGY AND PRAGMATISM IN THE MIDDLE EAST
Implications for Israel, The United States and Regional Peace
Dr. George Gruen
Director, Middle East Department American Jewish Committee
Questions on U.S. - Israel Relations answered by
Byman Bookbinder.
Special Representative, Washington office American Jewish Committee.
Admission NIS 2

ms121-24-724

Ecumenical Institute for Theological Research
Tantur Public Lecture in English
Thursday, March 19, 1987
by Dr. Orlando E. Costas

Dean, Judson Professor of Missiology, Andover Newton Theological School, Boston.

THE SUBVERSIVENESS OF FAITH: ESTHER AS A PARADIGM FOR A LIBERATING THEOLOGY

In the Lower Seminar Room off the Chapel Wing of the Institute at Tantur, commencing at 4:00 p.m. Tea will be served after the lecture. Ample space for car parking. Buses 22 and 30 stop outside the Main Gate. The Institute is on the road from Jerusalem to Bethlehem, at the junction with the dual carriageway to Gilo.

SINATRA. - Frank Sinatra, 71, has dropped plans to sing in Oslo in June after the Oslo city council banned the American entertainer because of his performances in South Africa. Norwegian concert promoters said yesterday.

Investor/Group of Investors up to \$3,000,000 for exclusive project in North Tel Aviv. Tel. 03-492778

Playing the Soviet Jewish numbers game

By ROBERT ROSENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Almost everyone in the Soviet Jewish emigration movement plays the numbers game. One group says there are some 40,000 refuseniks; another says there are about 12,000. Many use the figure 400,000 for all the Jews who want to leave. The more mention of numbers plays into the Kremlin's hands, says one spokesman.

The discrepancies reflect differing negotiating tactics, propaganda needs, ideology and politics.

Israeli political leaders most often use the 400,000 figure to describe what they call the demand for emigration. But 400,000 is a misleading figure, for it is based only on the

700,000 invitations sent from Israel since 1968 at the request of Soviet Jews. Most, it seems, never turned their invitations into applications for exit visas.

Some 300,000 Soviet Jews have left the USSR since 1968, 180,000 of them came to Israel. Nobody can know how many of the remaining 400,000 would apply to leave if the gates were opened.

But one thing is sure: the refuseniks did apply and were turned down. How many refuseniks there are is debated among those involved in the emigration campaign.

American television personality Phil Donahue interviewed a Soviet official earlier this year and asked him to comment on the living condi-

tions of Soviet Jews. The official emphasized that the vast majority of the two million Soviet Jews identified as such in the USSR are not interested in leaving. To prove his point, the official said that "only about 2 per cent" of Soviet Jewry had been turned down after applying for permission to emigrate. Two per cent of two million is 40,000.

The Jerusalem-based Information Centre for Soviet Jewry uses that quote to argue that the semi-official Public Council for Soviet Jewry's catalogue of 11,849 refuseniks is far from complete. The public council responds that it has no reliable information about more refuseniks than the 11,849 it lists.

The argument over numbers be-

tween the independent information centre and the government-affiliated public council is neither merely a "war of the Jews" between two groups vying for leadership nor an esoteric debate. The numbers are important in answering the question of how to negotiate with the Kremlin for the free emigration of Jews who want to leave.

The list of 11,849 permits the Soviets to allow the departure of that number in exchange for a Western *quid pro quo*. Then the doors could close on an unknown number of Soviet Jews who, in the rhetoric of the information centre, would be abandoned.

The public council, on the other

hand, must be very accurate in order to preserve credibility with foreign organizations and governments asked to intercede on behalf of Soviet Jewry. It must limit its claims about refuseniks to cases that can be documented.

So where are the 20,000 other refuseniks? The information centre says they are probably outside the main cities, where Ovir visa offices are relatively easy to monitor.

The numbers argument goes on, but negotiations for mass emigration may be in the offing sooner than expected: U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz might yet include human rights on his agenda when he travels to Moscow next month.

EC officials consider West Bank credit plan

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

European Community (EC) officials are considering a plan to sponsor a credit facility in the West Bank which would supply local industrialists and farmers with low-interest loans needed to spur economic growth in the area.

Sources close to the EC said the officials agreed this week to positively consider a proposal to establish an independent credit company which would be based on \$3 million in capital from Palestinian investors, and an equal amount from the EC which would be loaned at reduced interest rates. Some Palestinian businessmen have already expressed willingness to invest in such a project, and it has not met any Israeli opposition.

The company could give loans of up to \$30,000 for periods of two to three years, and could be a channel

for loans to local investors from Arab companies in the Gulf states, the sources said.

The EC officials also backed a proposal to set up a packaging plant for agricultural products in the West Bank, to meet European packaging standards for agricultural imports. The EC has already granted preferential status to such imports from the territories.

In addition to the recent EC moves, the German Development Society, which is backed by leading German industrialists, has pledged to look into industrial projects in the territories which could be funded by the German government. The Friedrich Naumann Foundation is also examining the possibility of awarding scholarships to Palestinians from the territories to train at major German industrial firms, in order to market and promote their products in the West Bank.

Dangerous road signs to Eilat

By BRADLEY BURSTON
BEERSHEBA. - Motorists driving to Eilat may be taking their lives into their hands, a highway maintenance official said yesterday, as vandalized road-safety signs in the Negev and Arava went unreplaced for the second straight week because of a feud between the police and the Department of Public Works.

In late February, the DPW and Eilat police carried out the latest in a series of operations to remove illegal billboards from southern highways. Shortly afterwards, DPW workers found that road-safety signs throughout the area had been taken down or defaced, apparently in retaliation for the billboard removal.

A DPW source told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that department officials know who is responsible for the vandalism, and that the information had been passed on to Eilat's police. DPW officials have decided not to replace the signs, the source said, in protest against what they see as the refusal of the police to take action.

"This is the third time in the last year that signs have been vandalized in response to the removal of illegal advertisements," the source said. "In the past, however, only directional signs were destroyed. This time whole sections of the Arava road have been left without vital safety markers."

The costs to the DPW are enormous, the source said, and the police have to put a stop to this. Meanwhile, he said, drivers in the area should know that they may be "taking their lives into their hands."

Last week DPW spokesman Dani Reiss said that the situation constituted "a dire peril for motorists in the Arava," and expressed the hope that public pressure would be brought to bear on the police to apprehend the offenders. "We are praying that the escalating vandalism will not lead to an accident, and that the Arava roads will not turn into the Wild West."



Hadassah women and supporters in a festive mood during their Purim parade through central Jerusalem yesterday.

Hadassah ladies out in force

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Many Israelis regard Hadassah as a powerful organization, but they never realized just how powerful it was until yesterday, apparently in answer to the heartfelt prayers of 2,000 Hadassah women, the sun shone on their Purim parade in Jerusalem.

The women, some of whom are accompanied by their spouses, are here to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the American women's Zionist organization. Their parade, along King George and Keren Hayesod streets, provided the climax to the city's outdoor festivities for Shushan Purim.

Although few women dressed in costumes, one group did wear bright blue berets. Another carried pale blue parasols - evidently a sign that even they did not believe that there would be fine weather after days of storms, rains and sleet.

"You wouldn't see this in Riverdale," said Sandra Kotkes, adding that in the U.S. Purim celebrations are restricted to synagogues.

"It was great," said Judy Lowe of Milwaukee. "I'm only sorry we didn't bring a band."

But if the women didn't have a band, they did have an enormous storybook house to lead them and enthusiastic youngsters, many of them involved in Hadassah sponsored programmes, marching with them.

In addition to representatives of the giant Hadassah Medical Organization, there were marchers from the Hadassah Community College, the Hadassah Vocational Guidance Center, the Young Judea Year in Israel Programme and Kibbutz Ketura, which is founded by Young Judea graduates.

"When we saw all those people hanging from their balconies, we felt like we belonged," said Marilyn Moonnick of Lexington, Kentucky.

"I liked all these people on the sidewalk shouting 'we love you'," said Norma Robbins of Columbus, Ohio.

As the marchers reached the bottom of Keren Hayesod Street, they mingled with the crowds enjoying an outdoor carnival in front of the railway station and in Liberty Bell Park.

And just as if to prove that the sunshine had been for them alone, clouds covered the sun and a cold wind began to blow soon after the parade ended. An hour later it was raining again.

Battered wife tells her story

By JOANNA YEHIEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

From the first night of her marriage, when she was raped by her husband, to the day, five years later, that she left him, Bracha was a "battered wife."

Until the day she picked up her two small children, packed a suitcase with diapers, and went back penniless and homeless to her parents, Bracha lived in fear of her husband's blows - and even greater fear of the blows he rained upon the children.

How did it start? Maybe, before I was born. It was the way I was brought up, to be a victim. My mother victimized me, and I grew up to know that that was the role I was given in life.

Bracha eventually married precisely because he was the one most likely to beat her. In fact, he already began slapping her about before they married.

"I couldn't get out of it, I hated him even then. I was 26, not a child. I knew what I was doing when I married him. I see myself as an independent woman, and yet I seem to want to punish myself."

Bracha was at university, studying for her MA and then headed an adult education school, while her husband was constantly unemployed. She provided the money to sustain him, and later their two children. As her health grew worse from the beatings (once he tried to strangle her) and from asthma, she found herself less able to earn money...and the beatings increased.

"All my health and energy went into saving my children...he began to beat them as babies aged three weeks, when they cried."

"Then, he would be sorry and cry himself. And then, he'd beat them, or me, again."

"He was so jealous of the children, especially the boy. He'd say: 'You only married me for the baby.' And then, he'd hurt the child again, knowing that he was hurting me that way too."

Why didn't Bracha tell anyone? "He wouldn't let me meet anyone, he kept me apart from others for 24 hours a day, except when I was working. He separated me from my friends - and I, too, didn't want them to know. I was ashamed of myself, so we hardly knew anyone anymore."

"Did my parents know? I think so. But maybe, they thought I deserved it..."

What made Bracha walk out? "It got to the point where I feared for the children, especially the boy. He was bruised and beaten. I'll never forgive myself for allowing it to happen. We left when he was 2½, and until he was 10, he was silent and withdrawn. Even now that he's 16, we find it difficult to talk about it."

"My daughter? My daughter hates me. I've talked about it to her. It's better that way than having it as a big secret."

But, says Bracha, "I learned to be a victim from childhood on. I always wanted to be, to give and give of myself. It's absurd, like a heroine, giving to others instead of to myself. I was like Esther in the Purim story. She married a man whom she hated, in order to be a heroine and save the Jewish nation. I wanted to do the same. If it hadn't been him, it would have been some other man."

Marine found guilty of raping waitress

HAIFA (Itim). - A U.S. Marine, Jimmy Kennedy, was found guilty in the district court here Sunday of the attempted rape of a pub waitress over a month ago when units of the Sixth Fleet were anchored off Haifa.

The court did not believe Kennedy's statement that the waitress had seduced him, and accepted her version of the affair - that he had attempted to rape her at knife-point.

In reacting to the defence claim that the waitress was a stripper and a wanton woman, the court said that "even a permissive woman, and even a wanton one, is entitled to repel attempts to force sexual intercourse on her."

The court criticized the police for resorting to a ruse to prevent Kennedy from seeing his lawyer when he was in custody.

Sentence will be passed next week.

Miami's Cubans contribute to the greening of Israel

By JOEL REBIBO
For The Jerusalem Post

Miami's 700,000 Cubans are responding enthusiastically to commercials on Spanish-language radio asking them to plant a tree in Israel by sending \$5 to the local Jewish National Fund office.

So says Mayor Xavier Suarez, who was here recently with two other Miami-area mayors to inaugurate the Jose Marti Forest in the Judean Hills.

"Both from a religious and an ecological point of view, people are aware of the need to reforest an arid part of the world," Suarez said. "Politically, Israel is a country that attracts important visitors who will see in the Jose Marti Forest a symbol of the Cuban people's aspirations for freedom."

The forest will eventually contain 430,000 trees, 10,000 for each year that Marti lived. Known as the liberator of Cuba, he was a leader of the revolution that ousted the Spanish from Cuba at the turn of the century. Marti remains a powerful symbol for Cuban refugees who long for the ouster of Fidel Castro and a return to their homeland.

The Cuban-Israeli connection goes beyond political or ecological considerations, Suarez said. "Cuban mothers are like Jewish mothers - they are very achievement oriented," he said.

He agreed to serve as chairman of the JNF Jose Marti Forest Park as a way of representing the 700,000 Cubans and 300,000 Jews who live in his city.

Conviction and devotion

KRISTIANSDAL CATHEDRAL CHOIR with the Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra - conducted by Rigmor Sigstad, Soloists: Rigmor Sigstad, soprano; Aasele Jern, alto; Kjetil Pedersen, tenor; Christopher Kyrte, baritone. (Jerusalem, Davidson Abbey, March 12.) Back: Cantata No. 11 "Lobet Gott in Sonnen Reichen"; Staged: Psalm 122, Hymns from Quarta (1985).

The Bach cantata which opened the concert showed that the choir, now on its second visit to Israel, has the will, the discipline and the know-



how to bring off a well-organized performance. Choir and soloists alike sang with conviction and devotion, obviously enjoying the music and feeling great empathy for it. Yet the performance maintained a very low-key sameness throughout, neither instrumental nor choral col-

DANIEL ZIFF

Court lenient on Beduin rapist

BEERSHEBA (Itim). - District Court Judge Yitzhak Shabtai Sunday refrained from imposing a stiff jail sentence on a young Beduin whom he had found guilty of attempted rape and aggravated assault. He said he feared a jail sentence would be interpreted by the Negev Beduin as a desire for revenge, and could undermine the delicate balance in the relationship between the Beduin and their Jewish neighbours in the Omer village suburb.

The judge accordingly sentenced

21-year-old Nasser Abu Sirhan, the son of Sheikh Odeh Abu Sirhan of the tribe of the same name, to 10½ months' imprisonment - exactly the period he had already spent in jail pending the verdict and sentence.

Nasser Abu Sirhan was found guilty of attacking and attempting to rape a 16-year-old girl in Moshav Omer about a year ago. He threw her to the ground and, when she yelled for help, threatened her with a knife and slashed her hands and neck.

The Complete Demjanjuk File

Every word written about Demjanjuk in *The Jerusalem Post* is now available from *The Jerusalem Post Archives*. The Demjanjuk Archive Kit gives you the whole story from 1979 to the present - ideal for journalists, researchers, educators and the public.

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(Continued from Page One)

Israel, is considered moderate in Lebanese terms. Recently he resigned his post as south Lebanese Shi'ite leader, apparently in an effort to gauge the depth of grassroots support for his proposed reforms in the political and military functions of Amal.

Daoud wanted to restrict Amal's military arm, which he felt had become too large and unruly.

At the same time he sought the authority and machinery to deal with trouble-makers. The proposed moves were seen as an attempt to prevent the inter-factional fighting that led to Syria's intervention in Beirut spilling over into the south, while boosting Daoud's own position.

Daoud appeared to have won the backing of the local population, who helped quell last month's attempted coup by former Amal strongman Hassan Hashim, a radical aligned with the PLO and the Iranian-backed Hizbullah (party of God).

Hashim, an advocate of militant extremism, had apparently intended to replace Fakih and Daoud, but his supporters were overpowered by Amal militiamen loyal to national chief Nabih Berri.

Now, however, both Daoud and Fakih have had the carpet pulled from under them by Berri and the Amal hierarchy.

Daoud and Fakih have thus ironically found themselves out in the cold, along with the man who sought to topple them. Hashim has been ostracized and confined to his home village of Marwanitah, near Sidon.

Daoud's successor, Abdul Majid Saleh, also a member of the national Amal politburo, until now had been

AMAL LEADERSHIP

responsible for labour and humanitarian affairs in south Lebanon.

A former schoolteacher, the new leader of the south's 400,000 Shi'ites is regarded as even more of a pragmatist than Daoud.

The emphasis placed by the Amal hierarchy on the fact that the new appointments are only temporary has led most observers to believe that the restructuring is part of a general cooling-off period, in the light of the abortive coup, and Daoud's sectarianism and anti-Syrian stance.

The timing of the reshuffle is significant. Syria, to which the Amal hierarchy owes its allegiance, has now established control over the warring factions in Beirut.

The Syrians have no love for Daoud, who prevented them from negotiating an end to the Amal siege of Palestinian refugee camps in the south.

The reshuffle could, in this context, be seen as a sop to the Syrians. Daoud, however, had recently shown signs of "empire-building" and had also been at loggerheads with Fakih over control of Amal in the south.

Daoud was previously in charge of the southern region, while Fakih controlled the area from the Litani river north to Beirut.

The reshuffle is seen by the South Lebanese sources as an attempt by Berri to reassert his control over the south through Saleh, his protégé and loyal supporter.

The changeover of power also coincides with a surge of criticism from the communist-led National Resistance movement and the Hiz-



Daoud Daoud

bullah about Amal's role in the south.

The communists, like the Hizbullah, have accused Amal of serving Israeli interests by preventing actions against the "occupation forces" in south Lebanon.

Communist leader Dr. George Hawi, speaking at a memorial ceremony at the American University in Beirut last week, indirectly accused Amal in the south of acting as Israel's second buffer zone.

He accused the "sectarian forces" which control south Lebanon of arresting and torturing anti-Israeli forces, and preventing the national resistance movement from carrying out its operations against the IDF and South Lebanese Army.

He charged the same (Amal) forces of destroying the medical infrastructure in south Lebanon, thereby creating a dependency on Israeli-supplied medical services.

He was referring to the killing, in south Lebanon in the past two weeks, of seven prominent communist sympathizers, the majority of them educated people, including doctors. As a result of the killings many doctors have fled north, leaving only three general practitioners to deal with a population of 250,000 in the Nabatiya region.

Hawi called for a special Lebanese Army brigade to re-establish central control in south Lebanon. If this did not work, he added, his party had formulated an action campaign to take over the security of the south and continue resistance operations.

It is debatable, according to sources in south Lebanon, just how seriously Hawi's threat should be taken.

Nevertheless, they noted that the National Resistance movement, although relatively small, was well organized and its members highly motivated.

The communist-led organization

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The Chief Rabbinate of Israel



Here's the challenge

Hillel Halkin

This article has been adapted from Halkin's, the magazine published by Tel Aviv, the movement for Zionist fulfillment. The author had been asked to write about what could be done, in organizational terms, to make Israel more challenging to new olim.

IN THE 10 YEARS since I wrote my book *Letters to an American Jewish Friend*, I have received numerous letters in response to it, many (though by no means all) appreciative and many deeply moving. Yet none, I must admit, ever moved me quite as much as a picture postcard I received a few months ago. On one side of it was the usual photograph of Jews praying at the Western Wall. On the other side was written:

"Hillel Halkin: Thank you for helping me find my way home. An American Israeli Jewish friend."

Israel desperately needs you, because the fate of the Jewish people will be determined, among other things, by whether you are here or not.

That was all. There was no other signature.

Moving — and a little troubling. It is not the easiest thing to have it on your conscience these days that a Jew whose name you don't even know has come to live in Israel because of you.

I don't want to be misunderstood: I believe as much as ever, even more so if that's possible, that a Jew who cares about being a Jew belongs only in Israel. But thinking of my anonymous ex-American Jewish friend I could not help reflecting that, while I wrote a great deal in my book about why I thought American Jews should live in Israel, I said next to nothing there about what they might do to feel fulfilled once they are here — and that, apart from the pitifully small number of olim from America in general, the saddest thing about American aliyah is that so many of those who come on it end by feeling unfulfilled and often, as a result, returning to the U.S....

But go find a fulfillment that is the same for everyone!

In fact, though people in general, and young people in particular, have an undeniable need to feel that what they are doing with their lives is important and even exciting, and tend to languish when this need is unmet, I do not believe that in Israel today there are realistic wholesale

possibilities of meeting it in collective, organizational terms. Here and there — perhaps, as an overall solution — unfortunately, no. As in most of the Western world, of which we are for better or for worse an overseas extension, we are living in an increasingly privatized society in which collective frameworks do not function well. One can deplore the fact, but there it is. A sense of meaningfulness and importance is something that, for the most part, each one of us will have to find in his own life for himself.

So what is there for me in Israel if I can lead my private life just as well, if not better, in America? That is the question asked by thousands of unsatisfied olim here in Israel; it is the question asked by hundreds of thousands of American Jews who are glad to find yet another rationalization for not being here; and it is a question to which my answer, I suppose, may disappoint many people.

Because all I can really say is: what there is for you in Israel is the experience of being here, of being part of a Jewish people living in its own land, building its own society, determining its own fate — and desperately needing you, because that fate will be determined, among other things, by whether you are here or not. Is that too little for you? It seems to me a lot.

Of course, if you want to think "large," so much the better; but I myself, after sixteen years of living here, am quite prepared to think "small." A society is ultimately the sum of its parts, and by being part of it you add to that sum, even if it does not give you ego a particularly big boost to know that you have only added to it by the integer of one. Simply by living in Israel; by working productively in it; by trying to be a responsible citizen in it; by having and raising children in it; by passing your values on to them and letting others see what these values are too; you have done a great deal. Of course, you can do as much anywhere else in the world as well — but anywhere else in the world you can not do it in a Jewish state. It seems that simple to me.

But that's not enough, you say, you want a sense of engaging in something special? Well, no one is stopping you. Engage in it in the same places you would elsewhere — in public activity, in private achievement, in some excellence or adventure in your own life. Just don't make it a *sine qua non* for being

here. Like any other society, more than any other society, Israel also needs people who are not special but who, by the very fact of being here and sharing the burden with the rest of us, contribute to the welfare of us all. If you happen to be one of those people, you are crucial too. There's no need to feel, unimportant, and certainly no need to feel guilty.

There is indeed something a little pathetic to me about olim (or Israelis, for that matter!) who complain that life in this country seems too "small" for them. Here they are taking part in one of the most extraordinary historical dramas ever lived by any people on the face of the earth — and life is somehow not interesting enough! Once, at a lecture I gave, when someone in the audience made a similar complaint, I told him that had he been present when the Law was given at Mount Sinai, he would no doubt have bawled-eyed the distant fire and smoke, half-listened to the incomprehensible rumble of far-off thunder, and grumbled that he was bored and that life was really much more of a challenge in Egypt. Being in the middle of something stupendous does not necessarily mean that one has the eyes to see the stupendousness of it.

And that perhaps is my most basic advice to anyone coming to live here: learn to see. And if you already do see, let nothing blur the clarity of your vision. It is all too easy for each

There is something pathetic about people who complain that life in this country seems too "small" for them. Here they are taking part in one of the most extraordinary historical dramas ever lived by any people on the face of the earth.

of us here to get so bogged down in his own concerns and in the daily struggle to survive economically (and God knows it is hard) that we forget the enormity of what is going on all around us — the enormity of which we all are part. I don't mean that one can live the collective drama vicariously as a substitute for what ever one wants to be doing in one's own private life. That doesn't work. But if one lives one's private life in Israel as well as as purposefully as one can, knowing that it is a part of something much greater gives it an added dimension of meaning that it cannot have anywhere else. I hope my new Israeli friend agrees.

I had not gone to Calcutta to look for Jews. In fact, after having spent more than a month on the Indian subcontinent, the presence or absence of fellow Jews in this foul, yet fascinating city was not uppermost on my mind. It was enough simply to try to comprehend the city itself.

As can be imagined, the longer one travelled in this part of the world, the further away one felt from one's home, family, friends, familiar food and even after while, from one's own personal identity. The traveller quickly becomes aware of his own smallness and insignificance when faced with the unbelievable crush of humanity that is India.

My wife and I were staying at a famous Calcutta landmark, the Hotel Fairmont, which expressed in its now faded elegance the last glorious days of the British Raj. By chance I learned that the Fairmont had had once been owned by a Jew, and that the neighbourhood had once contained many Indian Jews. It was just before Yom Kippur and, not really expecting a positive response, I asked the desk clerk if he knew of any Jews still living in the vicinity.

"Yes, of course, Mr. J. lives down the street at number 17," he said matter-of-factly.

We eventually found Mr. J., who answered the door in his underpants. He was less than interested in us. But he did suggest that we visit the two brothers, Solly and Israel, who ran a confectioners shop in the city market.

"They're very hospitable," he told us, and sent us on our way.

We hired one of the omnipresent "guides" who loiter on the streets of Calcutta looking for job offers. For two rupees, he deposited us in front of a very impressive storefront. It seemed bigger than most of the surrounding shops. Above the store was a sign emblazoned with the words "N. Bros. Confectioners".

The shop window was full of extravagant-looking Indian sweets, arranged it seemed to us like the inlaid gems of the Taj Mahal. On entering the store, we saw two men at the cash who somehow hoped were the two brothers. I introduced myself as a Jew from Canada, who

Sweet memory of Calcutta

A. N. Clarfield



Calcutta's Jewish population is fast dwindling, unlike that of the general population. (World Bank/Ray Widin)

Interior of the Magen David synagogue, completed in 1882. (J. Bat-Oran)



was interested in meeting fellow Jews.

"What city — Montreal or Toronto?" the plumper one quickly asked, looking up from the cash register. "Montreal," I offered hopefully. Solly's eyes grew damp, taking on a far-away look.

"Ah, Montreal... what a city! Beautiful, beautiful. Sherbrooke and Peel Street, I love that corner! What about Schwartz's delicatessen — is it still there? Do you know Cote St. Luc? (a suburb of Montreal — 95 per cent Jewish). Please sit down, sit down! You'll have tea?" It was more

of a command than a question, and we gratefully took the seats and food offered.

"We get along quite well with the Indians here," he informed us on being asked about the Jewish community's relations with the people around them. "We respect them, they respect us."

"But I'm an Israeli now," the slimmer brother, Israel, informed us. "I made aliyah a few years ago. I'm just back for a few months in order to help with the business."

On the subject of India-Israeli relations, the brothers felt no bitterness towards the Indian govern-

ment. Israel told me that during the Yom Kippur War, local Moslems had made threatening gestures towards the Jewish community. But the government "posted armed guards at all the synagogues and community centres in the country. They told the Moslems, 'Now boys, no nonsense with the Jews!'"

The Calcutta Jewish community, reflecting the general fate of the Jews of India, was itself fast dwindling in size. "What is there here for our boys and girls? I don't blame them for leaving," Solly explained.

In the past, however, things had been different. According to the *Encyclopedia Judaica*, the Jews were first associated with the city in the late 17th century as transient merchants, although the first historical evidence of Jews in India occurs around the year 1,000 from the Malabar coast. (There are even earlier references to Indian Jews in the Tanach, the Apocrypha, and the Talmud.) By the beginning of the 19th century, Jews of Syrian and Iraqi origin had formed a stable settlement in Calcutta. The first synagogue was built in 1831, another in 1856 and one of the largest in the east, the Magen David, was completed in 1882.

But, like many small Jewish communities the world over, Calcutta's population had steeply declined over past decades, leaving only a few hundred souls by the time of our visit. The brothers were convinced that it was just a matter of time before the Jews of Calcutta disappeared as an organic community.

We sat transfixed by the stories told to us by these last of the Mohicans. We were acutely conscious of the fact that we were talking to members of a soon-to-be-extinct locus of the Jewish people.

Finally, after being stuffed with tea and sweets, we thanked the brothers (who had truly fulfilled Mr. J.'s prediction) for their hospitality. They wished us luck and presented us with a large box, brightly wrapped in coloured ribbons.

"To break the fast," Solly said as they handed us our post-Yom Kippur sweets.

Dr. Clarfield is a McGill University geriatrician now in Israel on a sabbatical.

Papal policy protests

religious and lay leaders are to participate. But Pope John Paul is expected to engage in a substantive dialogue with 200 national Jewish leaders in Miami on September 11, the first stop of his nine-city American tour.

Moscow chief rabbi on Jewish rights: Adolf Shayeich, the Chief Rabbi of Moscow, claimed here that Soviet Jews have complete freedom to practise their religions, JTA reports from Geneva.

Shayeich replied to questions at a session of the UN Human Rights Commission devoted to human rights covenants. He was brought to Geneva from Moscow by the Soviet delegation to the Commission.

According to Shayeich, who heads Moscow's Choral Synagogue, the majority of the two million Jews in the USSR are non-believers by choice, not by force. He said that any Jew who wished to live by the laws of Moses and the Torah was free to do so.

Conservative cantors protest: A group of Conservative cantors in Toronto, Canada, has angrily protested the recent decision by the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York to ordain women as cantors in the Conservative movement. The protest was organized by the Rev. Eliezer Kirshblum of Adath Israel Congregation, who is chairman of the cantors' assembly for the Ontario region.

Joined by eight other cantors from Toronto and Hamilton, he sent a letter to Chancellor Ismar Schorsch of the Seminary, charging that he had reneged on a promise to retain the status quo and to consult on such matters as women cantors.

"Your unilateral decision in such a critical religious matter plays havoc once again in an even more dramatic way with those of us who are trying to live along traditional lines within the framework of the Conservative movement," the letter said.

It was sent to all Conservative-affiliated cantors in the region urging them to express their views in a referendum. The seminary's cantorial school will graduate three cantors next May, two of them women.

Yiddish tour of Israel: B'nai Brith Canada is organizing a Yiddish tour of Israel, June 15-29, open to all Canadian Jews. It will be led by the Yiddish TV and radio personality, Noah Witman of Winnipeg. The 13

nights in Israel will be fun packed with special emphasis on activities and events for the Yiddish-speaking participants.

Florida Sabbath case ruling cheered: Legal affairs directors of major U.S. Jewish organizations have expressed pleasure and relief at the decision by the U.S. Supreme Court that prohibits states from denying unemployment benefits to employees dismissed for declining to work on the Sabbath.

The Court recently ruled 8-1 in favour of Paula Hobbie, who had been fired from her job at a jewelry store in Winter Park, Fla., for refusing to work on Friday evenings and Saturdays because of her Seventh Day Adventist religious beliefs.

Because she changed religions after she was hired, the State of Florida considered her subsequent refusal to work to be misconduct, which then disqualified her from unemployment benefits. A federal court had ruled in favour of Florida.

The American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, and Anti-Defamation League of B'nai Brith had all filed *amicus* briefs in Hobbie's support.

A rabbi and his flock find their new pasture

The West Bank settlement of Efrat has 300 families. Eighty-five of them used to belong to Rabbi Shlomo Riskin's congregation in Manhattan. When he came on aliyah, they came with him. Dvora Waysman reports.



free transportation for them to Jerusalem so they can attend secular schools of their choice. It's only fair."

Fairness and non-coercion are high on Riskin's list of priorities. He favours an outreach programme to the secular, but insists that the only way to return Israel to Torah is by example, teaching, and love. "Only when the religious population is worthy of respect can we start to make inroads." Now being built in Efrat are de-luxe retreats for Israeli and Diaspora families to "sample" Judaism and raise their religious consciousness.

Is Efrat a model for other Diaspora rabbis and their congregations? "Yes and no," Riskin thinks. "I'm actually not the only one — Rabbi Gold from Long Island settled in Har Nof and about a dozen families came with him. I would like to think others will follow our example." "Would he do it differently with the wisdom of hindsight?" Rabbi Riskin nodded. "For my family it was fine — we really got our feet wet before taking the plunge, because from 1975 on I was 'Scholar in Residence' every summer at Kibbutz Ein Tsurim. We began to feel like citizens even before we came. But I underestimated the difficulty of aliyah for my congregants: finding employment, language problems, and so on."

Eighty-five families came with him, and another 25 are "on the way" from Lincoln Square. Of the 85, only 10 families actually settled in Efrat, because they were unable to find congenial work — mostly they moved to the Tel Aviv area. Only three families went back to America.

Originally 200 families were ready to come. "That was in 1976, when Riskin announced that a home in Efrat would cost \$40,000. But the

often publicly, I would probably have backed out. I had everything for me in the States, but I believed that the command of this generation is Israel. It would have been hypocritical for me to preach what I didn't practice."

THERE ARE 300 families living in Efrat, half of whom are from English-speaking countries and the other half Ashkenazi and Sephardi Israelis. There are four synagogues including a Sephardi *minyan*. The 10 secular families at Efrat "are very welcome," Rabbi Riskin says. "In fact," he confided, "as we only have religious schools here, we provide



Rabbi Riskin: the secular families here at Efrat "are very welcome." Karen Ben-Zion

economic situation forced the price up less than two years later to \$90-95,000, and over 100 families dropped out.

But Riskin thinks that "those who really wanted to come, came. Everyone got a \$30,000 mortgage. I think that's fair assistance — there's a limit to what you can expect the government to do."

Despite the drop-outs, he says that Efrat is still a success story. "A baby is born every week, often more than one. A woman serves on our religious committee; we hold a women's *megilla* reading and try to ensure their part of the synagogue is as good as the men's."

I always dreamt of being involved in education from kindergarten to the most advanced adult learning, and now I have this wonderful opportunity. I feel I have a major share in shaping my community, and this is an exciting challenge."

RABBI RISKIN has now joined forces with another dynamic figure on the Israeli educational scene: Rabbi Chaim Broverman, who is connected with the *T'shuva* (return to Judaism) movement. They jointly direct the Ohr Torah network with two yeshiva high schools, a *heder* yeshiva, a college for Judaic studies, a rabbinical seminary, and centres for women's higher Jewish education.

The focus is on "sensitizing the heart as well as educating the mind" to produce a new cadre of observant Jews who will love their fellow-man, even if he thinks differently.

"The most important issue today is the unity of the Jewish people," Riskin says. "If Conservative and Reform rabbis commit themselves to undertake conversions according to Halacha, with *brit* and ritual immersion, we should accept them. This is a Halachic problem, not a political one."



And what is his dream for Efrat? "Ultimately to see 5,000 families settled all the way from here to Solomon's Pools." If anyone can make a dream come true, it is Rabbi Shlomo Riskin.

The Jewish World page, which appears on alternate Tuesdays, is edited by Aryeh Rubinstein.

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TODAY

Tuesday, March 17, 1987 The Jerusalem Post Page Six

Lending a hand to special families

Initiated by Bar-Ilan University, the Parents School uses a psychological and functional approach to teaching family members how to cope with disabled youngsters. Lea Levavi reports.



DEVELOPMENTALLY disabled youngsters aren't the only ones who need a helping hand. The parents of these special children also need professional guidance, both practical and emotional, in order to cope with life in and outside of the home.

To this end, the Parents School was established three years ago by the rehabilitation section of Bar-Ilan University's Department of Psychology.

"I got the idea for the school on the basis of previous experience in leading groups for parents," says Prof. Shlomo Katz of the rehabilitation programme.

"What used to happen is that large numbers of parents [of disabled youngsters] would come to the first group meeting to complain about their problems — but nobody showed up for the second meeting."

From this, Katz concluded that such parents need more than just one opportunity to talk out their problems: "They need concrete skills which will help them feel confident and competent in their day-to-day interactions with their children."

Together with Prof. Shlomo Kravetz and other colleagues in his department, Katz developed what he describes as a psycho-educational approach to parental education which combines "working through feelings" and learning practical skills.

THE PARENTS School, which began as a pilot project, thus began to take on a life of its own, based at the university but offering group therapy programmes outside. To date, the Doron Foundation has funded the school's activities but other contributors are being sought.

While mothers seem to be the main participants, says Katz, fathers and siblings also come for advice and support.

In a group organized for parents of Down's Syndrome infants, for instance, participants discuss the pros and cons of institutionalization; whether and when to tell family members of the child's condition; how to react to an unknown neighbour's comment, and so on.

Exercises aimed at developing the child's muscles, stimulating him to learn, and teaching him to perform elementary tasks are also explained to parents.

As the children grow older, their needs and problems change, Katz

explains, as does the role of the parents. The Parents School, through other community channels, has developed programmes for parents of older disabled children which are broken down according to their disability — autism, learning disabilities or retardation.

SOME OF THESE groups focus on helping children to develop skills such as dressing, toilet training or feeding themselves. Here, behaviour modification techniques — rewarding the child for proper behaviour — are taught to the parents.

Katz and his colleagues teach parents to break down tasks. For example, in teaching a child to put on his trousers, the mother may put on the trousers for the child, lower them a little and then "reward" the child for pulling them up. Once he has learned this, the mother pulls the trousers down further and the child pulls them back up further — until the

whole task of putting on the trousers is mastered.

Parents' groups meet 10 times, with participants not only learning how to teach specific skills but also discussing their own attitudes toward their disabled child. After the sessions, the group leader makes a home visit.

Says Katz, "The group leader can see what is happening in the home and give advice. For example, he or she may ask the parents why they don't require the child to go to bed at a specified time. The group leader may even refer the family to marriage counselling or family therapy if this seems necessary."

After the individual session, the group meets a few more times to share what has been learned.

In other groups, behaviour modification techniques are used to deal with problems such as the child's aggression, unwillingness to eat or sleep properly, or destructive behaviour such as breaking and throw-

ing things. Here, parents are taught to distinguish between problems resulting from the disability itself, and those stemming from the setting of inadequate limits for the child.

Katz says the Parents School also runs a programme aimed at helping parents provide their disabled children with sex education and social skills. Parents' own sexuality, and their attitudes on how children should get information on sexual subjects, are also discussed.

"The parents [themselves] don't need so much information on birth control or sexual functioning; what they need is the confidence to decide what to tell their children and to go ahead and do it," Katz explains.

A teaching aid called the "circles programme" is suggested to parents to help teach their children about social distance and intimacy, he says. Circles of one colour represent the family — with whom kissing and touching is permissible — while circles of another colour represent strangers with whom such behaviour is not proper.

"These children don't have difficulty learning about menstruation or other aspects of the subject. Their difficulty is in making social judgments," Katz explains.

BECAUSE EACH of these varied groups is small, only about 120 families have been able to benefit from the Parents School programmes in its three years existence. Katz believes that at least for these people, their experience with the school has in some cases made the difference between coping and not coping, keeping the child at home or opting for institutionalization.

Katz wants to analyse the results of the programmes more scientifically, but admits that it is difficult to find reliable measurements across so many age groups and disability categories. In the case of the course given to parents of Down's Syndrome infants, it was found that the participants' children did not suffer from the deceleration (lowering of IQ) typical in such cases. Results of "self-care" groups can be measured by what skills children learn after their parents were taught how to teach them.

As for dealing with behaviour problems, Katz estimates that one-third of the families were helped a great deal, one-third a little, and one-third very little or not at all.

avoid cigars and pipes, the Minnesota doctors insisted.

A 13½-YEAR-OLD Haifa girl is believed to be the youngest person in Israel to have undergone an abortion. She arrived at the Kupat Holim Clalit hospital in Haifa, alone, in her third month of pregnancy. She applied to the special board that decides on termination of pregnancy and won automatic approval.

THE LIVES of children with a rare deadly genetic disease known as adenosine deaminase deficiency (ADA) may be saved thanks to a new technique that has been developed for treatment.

Researchers from Duke University and the University of Nebraska injected two ADA sufferers with a form of adenosine deaminase that had been modified to make it last longer in the body. They hoped that if they could introduce enough of the chemical into the blood, some of it would pass into the cells and compensate for the deficiency. The researchers' hypothesis proved right.

According to their report in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, weekly injections of the chemical almost completely reversed the problems caused by the disease. The discovery must be tested further before the treatment can be put into widespread use. It may also be adapted to treat other types of genetic diseases.

Until now, doctors have tried to treat ADA by replacing the child's bone marrow. If a suitable donor is not available or the transplant fails, blood transfusions are administered, but these often lose effectiveness over time. The disease cripples the immune system. Without treatment, the children suffer many infections after birth and usually die before age two.

With the injection therapy, there were no side effects and no signs that treatment became less effective during the eight months it was tested.

In an accompanying editorial in the journal, Dr. Rochelle Hirschhorn of the New York University medical centre called the discovery a "potentially exciting addition to our therapeutic armamentarium" that might be adapted to other genetic diseases — especially those caused when the lack of certain chemicals interferes with the body's metabolism.

mark dispute the value of this recommendation.

They found that even when the women took calcium supplements of 2,000 milligrams a day after menopause, they lost bone rapidly. There was little difference between their bone loss and that of women who took no extra calcium.

They said calcium seemed to have "a minor effect" on bones in the arms and legs, but none at all on the spine or wrists.

However, Hughes and Dr. William A. Peck of the Jewish Hospital of St. Louis, criticized the Danish study, saying the women's calcium intake might have already been so high that they derived no additional benefit from the extra calcium in the supplements.

Hughes suggested that extra calcium may slow bone loss for women whose intake is low. But after daily consumption gets high enough, there's no advantage to taking more. (Associated Press)

Today is edited by Amy Levinson.

The calcium controversy

Daniel Q. Haney/Boston

especially among elderly white women. It is blamed for many fractures among post-menopausal women, as well as compression of the spine that creates the stooped posture known as Dowager's Hump.

Bone loss begins before menopause, but it speeds up rapidly during the first five to 10 years after menopause, when women may lose five per cent of their bone mass each year. The loss then slows but continues into the 80s.

Estrogen pills are highly effective in retarding this process, but they also increase the risk of uterine cancer. Doctors have theorized that women can also slow the rapid loss of

bone by consuming more calcium, a mineral that is a primary component of bones.

Older women in the U.S. take in an average of 475 milligrams of this nutrient daily. Three years ago, a panel convened by the National Institutes of Health recommended an increase to 1,000 to 1,500 milligrams daily. A variety of products, including some carbonated beverages and antacids, are now fortified with calcium.

In a two-year study of 43 Danish women with an average age of 51, published in Thursday's *New England Journal of Medicine*, Dr. Claus Christiansen and colleagues from Glostrup Hospital in Glostrup, Den-

mark dispute the value of this recommendation.

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Today is edited by Amy Levinson.

By WLADIMIR STRUMINSKI
BONN. — Dead Sea psoriasis treatments are widely considered to be the world's most potent, and the spas lining the sea are filled with foreign tourists who have been plagued by the skin disease.

But psoriasis from West Germany, a potentially huge market, find it difficult to get their health insurance fund to finance Dead Sea treatments. Proponents of such treatments say that it is because the West German sick funds ignore their patients' interests and how to the lobby of German spas, which also offer psoriasis therapy, though less effective. The German spas have their supporters, too, however.

What, then, is the truth? First, vested economic interests are involved. A trip to the Dead Sea costs some \$1,500 — \$2,000, a major part of which goes to the Israeli tourism industry.

It is sometimes charged that German sick funds, facing a general cost explosion, cannot afford sending psoriasis to Israel. But those who believe in the value of Dead Sea treatments claim that in the final analysis, it is cheaper to send severe cases of psoriasis to the Dead Sea

Saving their skin

Israel fights to bring German psoriasis sufferers to the Dead Sea



Getting the treatment.

right away, than to pay for repeated visits to domestic spas.

In any case, there is at least circumstantial evidence that protecting the West German spa's business is behind the small number of sick-fund approvals for Dead Sea treatments. Sick funds in Austria, which has no German-type psoriasis treatment facilities, are much more willing to finance their patients' trips to the Dead Sea.

Moreover a few thousand of the estimated two million German psoriasis do travel for treatment to the Dead Sea each year, a good number of them at their own expense. This, in itself, constitutes a proof of the Dead Sea treatment's effectiveness, says the representative of one Israeli company promoting medical tourism to Israel.

Israel tourism experts say Israel could help itself in this market by

stepping up promotion and upgrading the limited infrastructure at the Dead Sea. Right now, even if the Germans did come to the Dead Sea in droves, the facilities could not cope with it. Israel's Health Ministry has not yet presented comprehensive statistical data on the effectiveness of Dead Sea treatments.

A spokesman for a leading German sick funds are increasingly willing to pay for Dead Sea cures. They will fund the trips of severe cases. The company has learned that the psychological atmosphere at the Dead Sea is particularly suited for psoriasis, he says.

Despite such progress, there is still much red tape. Psoriasis have to first undergo a number of unsuccessful treatments at home before they are allowed to go to Israel.

Still, political factors clearly can play a role. Last year the petitions committee of the Bundestag, the West German parliament, called on the federal government and the district government to extend financial help for psoriasis treatment. And since the last autumn, tax authorities recognize expenses on Dead Sea treatments as a tax deductible

BANKING ON IT / Pinhas Landau

Can small be beautiful?

One of the established complaints about Israeli banking is that there is too much of it. "There's a bank on every corner" is an oft-heard remark, from natives and visitors alike, and to the casual observer this seems to be true.

However, statistical analysis of independent and objective bodies has shown that, even several years ago, Israel is well down the international rankings in the ratio of bank branches to the population. Is this a case of statistics being sophisticated lies, or can one not believe one's own eyes any more?

All that as may be, but what is undeniable is that the current trend is for banks to reduce the number and size of their branches. Both internal pressure, namely the need to reduce costs, and external edict, in the shape of Bank of Israel directives, are now squeezing the bank branch population. For several years past, the total number has been gently declining, and starting last year and probably through the end of the decade, the number will decline considerably further.

Unpleasant though the experience was for all concerned, Bank En-Hai's experience demonstrated that today parent banks are prepared to kill off their children.

The question then becomes which branches will disappear. In that context, the role of the cluster of small banks with which each of the majors surrounds itself has been receiving increasing attention — especially within the bank groups themselves.

Most customers of one of the main banks pass the branches of these minor-league outfits without giving them much thought, because they have long since become part of the "furniture" on the streets where they are situated. But every now and then people ask themselves or others — what are banks like Massad, Aliyah-Leumi or Yahav? What do they do and why do they exist as separate entities?

Why, for that matter, do the big banks in the minor league, like Union Bank and Barclays Discount, continue to maintain a large measure of independence from their parents, instead of simply merging into them? In economic terms, the issue becomes one of economies of scale: If they do the same thing, isn't it cheaper to run one operation?

The answers vary considerably from one banking group to another, and from one individual subsidiary to another. Articles in this column in subsequent weeks will look at a number — although not all — of the commercial bank subsidiaries of the main commercial banks.

In general, the focus will be on why the bank in question came into being and, more importantly, what logical reason there is for it to remain in being. Just how relevant this existential attitude is in today's climate became brutally clear late last year when Bank Hapoalim took advantage of the dire financial straits of the moshav movement and "persuaded" it to agree to the closure of Bank En-Hai, which was jointly owned by Hapoalim and the moshavim. The small bank, which had 11 branches and five other part-time outlets, had not been profitable for years and did not have a very bright future to look forward to.

Unpleasant though the experience was for all concerned, it demonstrated that today parent banks are prepared to kill off their children if these become a burden. The implicit message is that if the subsidiaries can't pay their way they will at best be thrown out of home and at worst terminated.

At the other end of the subsidiary spectrum, in terms of profitability, prestige and sheer size, is Barclays Discount Bank. Any day now — perhaps today — this bank will announce its results for 1986, and these are likely to confirm that it has the highest rate of profitability of any bank (of at least reasonable size) in the Israeli system.

Size-wise, too, Barclays Discount is not significantly different from First International and cannot be written off as too small to matter. One important difference between these two is that Barclays Discount never became a stock-exchange traded company and is therefore much less well known. This is due to the insistence of its managing director, Moshe Neudorfer, that no real benefit would accrue from going public to the two partners in the bank — Israel Discount, which holds a slight majority, and the London-based Barclays Bank International, which maintains its almost-50 percent stake despite occasional pressure from the Arab world, where it has extensive interests.

Had Barclays Discount issued shares, there can be little doubt that, as with Leumi-owned Union Bank and Mizrahi-owned Finance and Trade Bank, they would have been regulated and ended up in the "arrangement" with all the attendant negative implications. As it is, Neudorfer has led the bank out of the diamond-trade-induced crisis it was in when he arrived six years ago, while the majors — including parent Discount — have been wallowing in the aftermath of the October 1983 debacle.

Barclays is therefore one of the pillars on which the Discount Group stands, and represents a prime "profit centre" for the group's capital. It is also an unsung hero of the much larger Barclays Bank International — unsung because the British like to keep a low profile about it, and here because its recent profitability has quashed the musings they had when the diamond slump shook the bank that maybe the whole thing wasn't worthwhile.

The bank started life as part of Barclays Bank D.S.O., which was part and parcel of the empire on which the sun never set, and which — for those who may have forgotten — had a mandate to run this country from 1920 to 1948. After independence, the bank's parent, which eventually became Barclays Bank International, sought to reduce its holding, although not to eliminate it entirely, and the connection with the Recanati-owned Discount group thus dates back a long way. Barclays still has a permanent representative in Tel Aviv, as well as sending their directors to board meetings quite regularly. Their role is far from passive, although inevitably the initiative is in the hands of the locals. And, given the economy in which the bank operates, no other course seems feasible.

The independent existence of Barclays Discount is therefore assured under present circumstances, since neither side is interested in selling out to the other or to anyone else. But beyond the ownership factor as a reason for independence, the bank has carved out its own market niches which justify its separateness.

Barclays Discount was once synonymous with the diamond trade, in which it was the leading bank, but Neudorfer has ended that era and the bank's diamond lending is now negligible. There remain, however, the bank's major presence in two distinct sectors of the country's population — Israeli Arabs and the ultra-Orthodox groups. A vastly disproportionate number of Barclays' 70+ branches are in these areas, and the bank has a clear measure of expertise in their needs.

Part of the attraction that Barclays Discount has to these groups — or so it is thought, since hard proof is unavailable — is that with its foreign ownership it is less "Zionist" than its rivals. This is hard to substantiate, given that Leumi's Arab-Israel subsidiary and Hapoalim's regular branches fly the Arab sector, and Mizrahi as well as all the others do good business in ultra-Orthodox neighbourhoods. But the fact is that Barclays Discount has responded to the demand from these sectors, rather than created it.

Barclays Discount therefore contains all the classic ingredients of a case of justified independence: Distinct ownership, albeit in partnership with one of the majors; a separate market presence in distinct retail and/or business sectors; and solid — in this case almost phenomenal — profitability.

Between the two extremes of Ein Hai (R.I.P.) and Barclays Discount are all the other commercial bank subsidiaries, whose characteristics and prospects will be reviewed in subsequent articles.

Social Security: Raw deal from the U.S.

By MURREL KOHN

J.B., an American citizen, immigrates to Israel after working in the U.S., where he met the minimum qualifications for a Social Security pension. In Israel, he is employed by an Israeli company and National Insurance Institute (NII) payments are deducted from his salary.

But, at retirement, J.B. learns that because he did not remain in the Social Security system and paid social insurance taxes to another country, his benefits have been reduced, by as much as 50 per cent.

If J.B. had stopped working after at least 10 years and not taken a job in Israel, his American Social Security pension would not have been reduced. Or, if J.B. were self-employed in Israel and paid both Social Security and NII, he would receive full pensions from both.

The reason for this anomaly is difficult to grasp. But since 1986, U.S. Social Security pension benefits have been reduced when taxpayers have other pensions such as NII. These other pensions refer to those based on earnings after 1956 not covered by U.S. Social Security, such as wages paid by an Israeli employer. It does not matter that J.B. paid premiums entitling him to the NII. This regulation does not affect those who were 62 or over on January 1, 1986.

According to the Social Security

Administration (SSA), the law was necessary to prevent discrimination against higher income taxpayers. The reason is that those with low earnings receive a weighted Social Security pension in their favour, that is they receive more in relation to their earnings than those with higher earnings. Therefore, if someone is receiving another pension, the SSA decided he is not entitled to the excess weighting and therefore the Social Security pension is reduced accordingly.

Furthermore, the U.S. can tax the pension J.B. receives from Israel. In addition, up to 50 per cent of his Social Security pension can also be taxed by the U.S. depending on the level of his income.

Israel, on the other hand, taxes J.B.'s Social Security pension only if he receives it in Israel and if it is subject to U.S. taxation. Under present law, the local NII pensions are exempt from Israeli taxation.

J.B.'s wife, S.B., a self-employed American in Israel, also has troubles. She faces ever-mounting premiums for social insurance both in the U.S. and Israel.

The recent 10 per cent devaluation of the shekel adds fuel to an already raging fire of social insurance taxes. Since 1984, U.S. citizens or "green card" holders (resident aliens) earning self-employed income outside the U.S., have been subject to Social Security tax. And there is no Social

Security tax exemption for self-employed foreign income earners as there is in the case of income tax.

If net income is more than \$400 a year, all of it is subject to the Social Security tax, whose rate is currently 12.3 per cent and peaks at 15.3 per cent in 1990. In 1987, it applies to all net income from self-employment up to \$43,800. The maximum tax payable is \$5,387.

The 2.49 per cent U.S. health insurance premium is part of the total 12.3 per cent. This insurance pays for the hospitalization section (Part A) of Medicare. However, Medicare does not pay benefits for hospital or other medical expenses outside the U.S. Therefore, 20 per cent of the self-employed Social Security tax paid by S.B. is for a benefit that she cannot receive as long as she lives in Israel.

As an Israeli resident, S.B. must also pay Israeli National Insurance premiums. The current rate is 20.85 per cent up to a maximum \$33,571 of net income per year. The premium includes 5.45 per cent for hospitalization (*mas makbil*), which is partially deductible for income tax purposes. Of the remaining 15.4 per cent, income tax recognizes 75 per cent as deductible.

No deduction is now allowed for U.S. self-employment taxes either in Israel or in the U.S. From 1990 on, the U.S. will allow one-half the U.S. self-employment taxes as a business

expense.

It is apparent that this double taxation of social insurance taxes has become an unbearable burden, exceeding in some cases the income taxes payable. S.B. figures her total tax bill, based on taxable income of NIS 20,000 per year, as follows:

Effective tax rate*	
Israeli Income Tax (assuming 2 children)	25
National Insurance (Israel)	16.6
Social Security (U.S.)	12.3
Taxes on purchase foreign currency to pay Social Security taxes:	
a. Services tax	1.85
b. Foreign currency levy	.12
Total	55.87

*Net of credits and deductions.
On the brighter side of the picture, those needing additional quarters (three-month periods) in order to qualify for retirement pension, will find the obligation to pay Social Security tax a good opportunity to be credited with needed quarters. In 1987, the taxpayer will be entitled to one quarter for each \$460 of net income, up to a maximum of four quarters per year.

On the whole, however, the situation for dual citizens and Americans resident abroad is bad. A review of relations between the U.S. and Israel in the area of social insurance is urgently needed.

Murrel Kohn is a Certified Public Accountant living in Jerusalem.



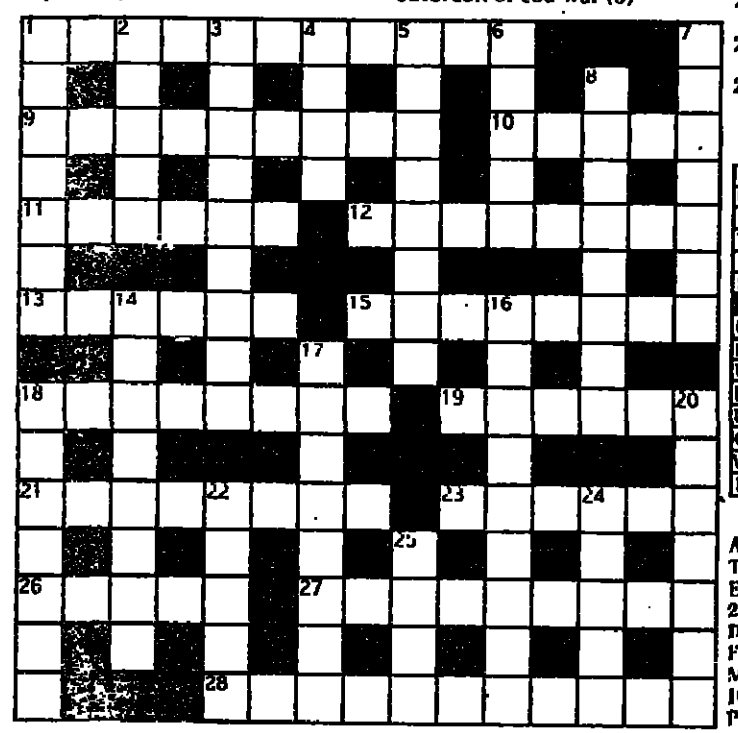
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 11 sees some workers off (11)
- 9 Source of income women tend to covet (9)
- 10 Locomotive coach (5)
- 11 Entertain with "Sailors' World" (6)
- 12 Encourage factory to produce fruit (3-5)
- 13 Chap who transgressed in retirement (6)
- 15 Bowler, meeting long innings, can rest here (3-5)
- 18 But does it give a hoot where it soars? (5-3)
- 19 Ostentatious display with siphon (6)

- 21 Specific Athenian with any outside element (8)
- 23 Like many tributes Miss Macdonald left (6)
- 26 How clumsy, spilling a pint (5)
- 27 What deliberately sets the optics off? (3-6)
- 28 Approval of what is added to 9 (11)

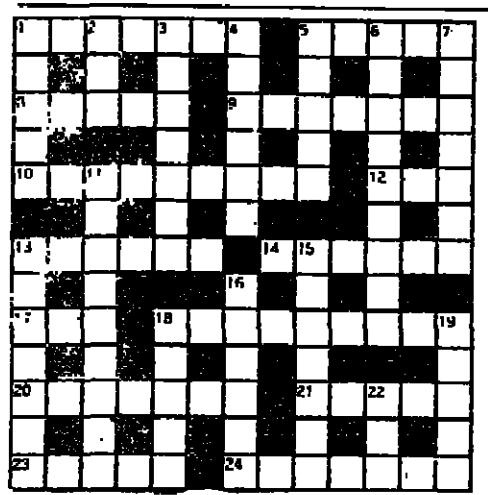
- 4 American composer canonised in Cornwall (4)
- 5 Triangle broken yet intact (8)
- 6 Old bar in which English pick up lots of money (5)
- 7 Add note about what is presented (7)
- 8 Double deposit from ground-vent? Polynesians might wear it (4-4)
- 14 Bird giving nasty shock after dark (8)
- 16 Cheers up, perhaps, left in this tomb? Most improbably! (9)
- 17 Pans roughly half of his charges? (6)
- 18 Kinsman does not begin to show such joy (7)
- 20 That fnl Wlf, looking odd in hat (4-3)
- 22 Bishop's 25, banded and divided (5)
- 24 Rooftop area under high pressure (5)
- 25 River clothes? (4)



Yesterday's SCORCH
UPPER OBE
IMPROVED UNSAID
TRADE TRO
EVENTIDE CRAVEN
SLOPPANT
GLYPHICANT
HEADWATER
UNWATER
REIGNS ACROSTIC
NILE LOW
WPIATE LIVELINE
WSE PNLW
LATEST ASSAULTS

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 7 Maiden, 10 Briton, 10 Tribute, 11 Vague, 12 Ugly, 13 Essay, 17 Burns, 18 Just, 22 Brief, 23 Fynable, 24 Strawn, 25 Upkeep.
DOWN: 1 Amateur, 2 Cuvill, 3 Femur, 4 Trivial, 5 Stage, 6 Sincer, 9 Messenger, 14 Ruffian, 15 Tumbler, 16 Attempt, 19 Obese, 20 Flery, 21 Puppy.



QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 1 French painter, 3 English poet, 5 Tree, 8 City's outer distr., 10 Taciturnity, 12 Understand, 13 Baby's bed, 14 Strabismus, 17 Employ, 18 Horse-racing centre, 20 Large relative of weasel, 21 Allude, 23 Concise, 24 Vacation.

DOWN: 1 German composer, 2 Pill, 3 Principled, 4 Relating to bears, 5 Aristocratic, 6 Measure used for comparison, 7 Smell a rat, 11 Tourist, 13 Self-griddle-eater, 15 Angry disagreement, 16 Tress of false hair, 18 Well-recess, 19 Behindhand, 22 Creel.

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Calls for a cut

Bruno defends higher interest rates

By AVI TEMKIN

The governor of the Bank of Israel, Michael Bruno, yesterday rejected both demands for an immediate cut in the interest rate and accusations that the central bank had acted hastily in boosting them in February.

Bruno said the bank will decide on its interest rate policy on the basis of borrowing volume and how deep the deficit in the state budget becomes.

Bruno said that those attacking the bank were forgetting that the wholesale price index of industrial output went up 2.6 per cent, in accordance with the central bank's forecast, and signalled a higher CPI in coming months. The lower than expected rise in the consumer price index, which went up just 1 per cent in February, was the result of seasonal factors, he noted.

Bruno was responding to the strong attacks on the Bank of Israel by industrialists and Finance Minis-

try officials for its interest rate policy. The attacks were triggered by Sunday's announcement by the Central Bureau of Statistics of the CPI, which was lower than expected.

The bank raised interest rates in February by 1 per cent a month, saying it forecast a rise in the inflation rate by an equivalent amount over and above the 1.5 per cent rate then prevailing.

Senior Treasury officials criticized the central bank's stance on interest rates, complained that it had not consulted the Finance Ministry prior to the decision to boost interest rates. "If they had discussed it with us, we would have told them that the inflation rate will be lower than they expected," one Treasury official said.

The Treasury official said the central bank's timing was poor. It went ahead and boosted interest rates in February, when inflation remained relatively low, and thus is now under

pressure to cut them again, he said. If it had waited until April, when the CPI is expected to show a sharper increase, the bank would then have been justified in ordering an interest rate hike.

Now it may be forced to cut the rate for political reasons and then raise it again weeks later, the official said.

The Knesset Finance Committee is expected to debate the Bank of Israel's interest policy and its reasons for the 1 per cent hike. Committee Chairman Avraham Shapiro, said yesterday he would ask Finance Minister Moshe Nissim and Bruno to attend the committee's meeting this week.

To the voices protesting the interest rate level, were added the moshavim yesterday. The secretary of the Moshav Movement, Gedalia Gal, sent a telegram to Bruno yesterday demanding an immediate cut. Gal said that if the interest rate was



Michael Bruno (Rahamin Israeli)

not trimmed, his movement would consider calling on its members to stop paying what he termed "usurious" interest rates to the commercial banks.

Tax breaks offered on VOA work

By KEN SCHACHTER

For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. — Israeli companies vying for contracts to build the Voice of America (VOA) broadcast station in the Arava will have the taxes waived on major components they import, an interministerial group has decided.

The waiver is designed to put Israeli companies on an equal footing with foreign firms competing for the bids, said Yoram Elster, director-general of the Ministry of Communications.

The first contract for the \$300 million project is expected to be awarded within three or four months, Elster said at a recent meeting with members of the Israel-America Chamber of Commerce.

Although bidding will be open on certain parts of the five-year project, the antennas and 16 transmitters — worth about \$160 million — will come from U.S. sources, the governments have agreed. Israeli companies, meanwhile, will bid for the role of main contractor as well as tenders to install and maintain the antennas and the 500-kilowatt transmitters.

Elster estimated that "a quarter to a third" of the \$300m. U.S. spends will filter back to Israel through contracting and subcontracting.

"The VOA station will be built by an Israeli company that will be selected through bidding as the main contractor and will carry out what is defined as the integration of the infrastructure into one complete network," Elster said.

The Israel-America Chamber of Commerce is serving as a clearinghouse for the project, providing Israeli companies with information on bidding procedures and construction.

The station, which will relay broadcasts originated at U.S. Information Agency studios elsewhere, will employ about 100 people on a permanent basis. The sprawling 8,000-dunam station will aim its broadcasts at Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, particularly its Moslem minority. The Foreign Ministry has reserved the right to cut off transmissions that could endanger Soviet Jewry.

Some \$280m. of the project's budget will be devoted to engineering and construction, while the remaining \$20 million will go for management and administration.

STIPENDS — Druze graduate students of the University of Haifa, Hoodah Halabi of Daliat al-Carmel and Massoud Hamdan of Isfiya, were each awarded this week NIS 1,500 stipends donated by the Kedmany family of Druze Industrialists.

Oil find near Ashdod

By SIMON LOUISON

For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. — Oil in commercial quantities has been pumped by reworking the old Heleg field, east of Ashdod.

Lapidot Corp., the government-owned drilling company, made the discovery on behalf of an Israeli consortium led by Naphtha Petroleum Corp., the state-owned oil explorer. Naphtha owns 80 per cent of the well, MGM, 10 per cent, Delek Oil Exploration Ltd., 6 per cent; Delek Fuel Corp., 2 per cent and Fed Oil Ltd., 2 per cent.

The well, known as Kohav 29, lies between Negba and Sderot.

Naphtha Managing Director Elisha Roth said yesterday that the discovery was "not a bonanza" and

would not solve Israel's oil problems. Only a brief flow test has been conducted so far, enough to suggest there is enough oil in commercial quantities.

The exact extent of the find will not be known for several weeks, after extensive flow tests have been conducted. Experts estimate it is likely to be 100 barrels a day.

Roth said the company had been "playing with the concept of neglected traps in old fields," and this find proved the concept is workable. The field where the find is has been worked for 25 years and is still producing around 70 barrels a day.

The consortium is investing around \$2 million a year in exploration and has recently drilled the dry Ramat 1 and Heleg 28 wells.



A Lufthansa flight crew models the new uniforms the carrier's entire flight staff will be getting, beginning next July. Created by Munich fashion designer Jurgen Weiss, the ground staff began wearing their new uniforms in January.

Controls on chocolate imports urged

By KEN SCHACHTER

For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. — In a classic case of not taking the bitter with the sweet, Israel's chocolate producers have banded together to protest the government's handling of their foreign competitors.

Executives from Elite Ltd., Vered Hagall and Oppenheimer Sweets Ltd. have sent a joint letter to the Ministry of Industry and Trade denouncing the pricing and label policies now applied to the imports.

Ami Dolev, general manager of Vered Hagall's Safad plant, said the imports enjoyed freedom of movement within the marketplace, while domestic manufacturers are tangled in red tape.

"We have to show the Ministry of Industry and Trade our exact calculations and prove what we believe to be a reasonable profit," Dolev said. But the imports are free to buy inexpensive chocolate in West Germany, he said, and sell it at premium prices in Israel.

The chocolate companies also charged that the government has not enforced regulations requiring that imported chocolates carry labels listing the contents with Hebrew printing in the same type size as that in the brand's home language. Now, they charge, the imports simply affix a small sticker to the bar with tiny Hebrew printing.

Questioned about the unusual joint complaint, Dolev said: "If we have problems, we get together." But, he stressed, "we do compete."

New chief selected for TA fairground

By MIRIAM SHENKAR

For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. — Israel Trade Fairs Centre Ltd., which was on the verge of collapse three years ago when Nachum Raz was called in to rescue it, has returned to financial health and is getting a new director general.

At a press conference yesterday, Raz said a good part of the company's debts had been paid off and that the company's recovery plan was proceeding as planned. With the appointment of a new director general, Yitzhak Brenner, a former IDF colonel, it could begin to invest in upgrading the fair grounds, Raz said.

Brenner said that about \$1 million would be invested this year alone to improve the company's 30-year-old fair grounds in Ramat Aviv. The work will include upgrading the electrical system, water supply, public grounds and security.

In addition, architect Moshe Safdie has prepared plans for the long-term redevelopment of the centre. Five large exhibitions are planned at the fair grounds this year, with May's Technology 1987 to be the largest. Other exhibits will feature such areas as plastics, construction and Man and His Home.

Raz signed on as the fair grounds director general in 1982, while continuing to serve as Atidim Ltd.'s managing director. Brenner, 49, is a graduate of Hebrew University and studied marketing at the Technion. After leaving the IDF last year, he served as director of Friends of Ben-Gurion University.

'Opec producing below quota'

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP). — Opec production this month has been around 14 million barrels a day, 1.8 million barrels below the cartel's self-imposed ceiling, *The Middle East Economic Survey* reported yesterday.

The authoritative Nicosia-based weekly said the production level sup-

ported recent statements by leaders of the organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries that the cartel would likely cut output rather than give ground on efforts to force prices down.

The publication said that as oil prices bounced back after a drop last month intensive consultations be-

tween Opec's 13 members indicated that market factors currently favour the cartel.

The weekly noted that this ruled out the need for a special session before next June's regular conference to tackle fluctuations in oil prices that have threatened Opec's price-boosting strategy.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices:			
General Share Index	124.79	+2.70%	
Non-Bank Index	148.97	+5.45%	
Insurance	128.68	+4.77%	
Commerce & Services	147.56	+7.42%	
Real Estate & Agric.	140.45	+4.51%	
Industrials	150.88	+5.19%	
Metals	145.03	+4.85%	
Electronics	160.86	+5.59%	
Chemicals	147.98	+5.48%	
Industrial Invest.	164.24	+5.48%	
Investment Cos.	165.73	+5.75%	
General Bond Index	108.06	-0.85%	
Index-Linked Bonds	109.04	-0.97%	
Fully linked	109.98	-1.08%	
Partially linked	107.72	-0.93%	
Dollar-linked Bonds	107.26	-0.55%	
Short-term 0-2 yrs	107.12	-0.74%	
Medium-term 2-5 yrs	108.38	-0.79%	
Long-term 5+ yrs	110.37	-1.07%	

Turnovers:			
Share-total	NIS 34,152,500		
Arrangement	NIS 2,862,000		
Non-Bank	NIS 31,490,500		
Bonds-total	NIS 10,595,900		
Index-linked	NIS 8,757,500		

Share Movements:			
Advances	314	(215)	
of which 5%+	183	(338)	
buyers only	12	(2)	
Declines	19	(39)	
of which 5%+	1	(5)	
sellors only	1	(3)	
Unchanged	47	(128)	
Trading Halt	41	(39)	

Bond Market Trends:			
Index-linked	3% fully linked	Falls to 3%	

Arrangement yields:			
IDB ord.	16.48%		
UDB ord.	16.43%		
T.A.T. 1	20.80		
Discount A	15.78%		
Mizrahi R.	16.00%		
Hapoelim R.	16.58%		
General A	16.27%		
Leumi Stock	16.27%		
Fin. Trade 1	no trading		

SELECTED PRICE QUOTATIONS

Name	Price	Volume	%
Commercial Banks			
(not part of "arrangement")			
Martina	2336	7989	+6.9
General non-arr.	27800	304	+3.7
First Int'l	5080	2947	+8.2
FBI	6300	5431	+6.3
Commercial Banks			
(part of "arrangement")			
IDB	91800	397	+0.4
Union 0.1	68200	150	-0.3
Discount	117000	152	+0.6
Mizrahi	38070	487	+1.1
Hapoelim R.	62850	138	+0.5
General A	168800	19	+0.7
Leumi 0.1	39050	1910	—
Fin. Trade	no trading		
Mortgage Banks			
Leumi Mort. r	9800	63	+4.5
Dev. Mort.	4180	2509	—
Mizrahi r	4000	1312	+5.8
Tafelot r	25000	149	+5.5
Mezav r	8400	344	+7.7
Financial Institutions			
Agic Co.	no trading		
Ind. Dev. OD	no trading		
Clal Leasing 0.1	30000	258	—
Insurance			
Ararat 0.1 r	1828	1332	+10.0
Haasneh r	448	57731	+5.4
Phoenix 0.1	814	9187	+10.0
Leumi r	7000	138	+3.4
Memora r	2882	194	—
Sahar r	8520	959	+6.2
Zion Hold. r	14385	50	—
Trade & Services			
Meir Ezra	1410	4649	+6.0
Supersol 2	12210	1250	+10.0
Delek r	8000	18056	+9.7
Lightforce	25550	107	+6.7
Gold Storage	1309	5274	+5.1
Dan Hotels	1950	733	+8.3
Yarden Hotel	2713	150	-1.0
Hilon 1	no trading		
Team 1	1200	15158	+8.1
Real Estate, Building and Agriculture			
Asfria	1210	68677	+5.3
Elion	916	18173	—
Africa Tel. 0.1	52200	842	+3.8
Dankner	7777	431	+1.0
Prop. & Bldg.	3510	12477	+5.7
Bayshore 0.1	4750	3188	+3.0
ILDC r	67350	753	+5.3
Rasoco r	5800	419	+1.6
Mahadim	7610	583	+3.1
Hadarim	1910	4222	+6.1
Industrials			
Dubek b	6900	4347	+8.2
Priz-1	15710	727	+0.1
Sunflow	25600	1902	+4.3
Elite	915	10407	+2.2
Argam r	17600	118	+2.3
Delta G 1	5100	2988	+8.5
Margueta 1	5200	759	+8.3
Eagle 1	750	8531	+2.6
Poigat	4650	1782	+9.4
Schoelleria	18008	—	—
Rogovin	3000	1102	+5.0
Urban G. 1 r	9450	424	+7.3
Le Can Co. 1	4780	7071	+8.2
Zion Cable	2882	1349	+5.1
Pekker Steel	23000	120	+7.0
Elbit	641000	87	+6.0
Investment Companies			
IDB Dev. r	9360	9223	+7.8
Elion r	6050	5880	+10.0
Aik 1	389	b.o.1	+8.0
Gahiel	2114	3331	-0.5
Israel Corp. 1	20240	2744	+10.0
Wolfson 1 r	148000	8	+3.1
Hapoelim Inv.	11750	2308	+7.8
Discount Invest.	6100	1908	+8.8
Mizrahi Invest.	32200	151	+5.2
Clal 10	1533	b.o.1	+5.0
Landco 0.1	3091	1822	+10.0
Pama 0.1	12882	491	—
Oil Exploration			
Pac Oil Expl.	33000	701	+10.0
J.O.E.L.	6985	b.o.1	+5.0

FINANCIAL DATA: ISRAEL, EUROPE, U.S.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

SHEKEL INTEREST RATES
PRIME BORROWING RATE: 2.5% per month
Unlinked Deposit (Annual Rates)

	Last Updated	Tapas	Pakam 7-Day	Pakam 30-Day
LEUMI	16.3	10-27%	11-27%	15-28%
HAPOLIM	12.3	10-25.50%	11-25.50%	15-25.50%
DISCOUNT	12.3	10-25.50%	11-25.50%	17-29.00%
MIZRAHI	1.12	8-17%	8-17.50%	8-19.50%
FIRST INTL	24.2	17-25.00%	18.25-25.50%	22-28.00%

Rates vary according to size of deposit.
(Tapas: demand deposit paying daily interest.
Pakam: fixed-term deposit available from 7 to 59 days.)

PATAY — FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSIT RATES (March 16)

	MINIMUM DEP	3-MONTHS	6-MONTHS	12-MONTHS
USD (\$100,000)	5.750	5.750	5.750	5.750
STG (100,000 pounds)	8.375	8.125	8.125	8.125
DMK (100,000 marks)	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.125
SFR (50,000 francs)	3.125	3.000	3.000	3.000
YEN (5,000,000 yen)	2.825	2.825	2.825	2.825

Rates vary according to size of deposit and are subject to change.

SHEKEL FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES (March 16)

		CHEQUES AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rates
		Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
Currency basket	1	1.6770	1.6980	—	—	1.6812
U.S. Dollar	1	1.6148	1.6351	1.58	1.65	1.6226
Deutsche mark	1	0.8789	0.8978	0.86	0.90	0.8748
Pound Sterling	1	2.5467	2.5768	2.49	2.60	2.5621
French Franc	1	0.2630	0.2663	0.25	0.27	0.2628
Japanese Yen	100	1.0631	1.0784	1.04	1.09	1.0678
Dutch Florin	1	0.7758	0.7854	0.76	0.79	0.7745
Swiss Franc	1	1.0442	1.0573	1.02	1.07	1.0425
Swedish Krona	1	0.2510	0.2542	0.23	0.26	0.2510
Norwegian Krona	1	0.2323	0.2352	0.23	0.24	0.2327
Danish Krone	1	0.2328	0.2358	0.23	0.24	0.2324
Finnish Mark	1	0.3670	0.3815	0.35	0.36	0.3572
Canadian Dollar	1	1.2343	1.2387	1.20	1.26	1.2282
Australian Dollar	1	1.0987	1.1135	1.07	1.11	1.1033
S. African Rand	1	0.7719	0.7816	0.50	0.60	0.7757
Belgian Franc	10	0.4211	0.4284	0.41	0.43	0.4224
Austrian Shilling	10	1.2422	1.2578	1.22	1.27	1.2452
Italian Lira	1000	1.2330	1.2486	1.20	1.27	1.2310
Jordanian Dinar	1	—	—	4.52	—	4.6893
Egyptian Pound	1	—	—	0.78	0.83	0.8194
Ed.	1	1.8776	1.9403	—	—	1.8194

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Bank of Israel's error

BEWARE the Ides of March? No longer, at least not necessarily. That normally fearful day was this week marked not only by the fun of Purim but by the happy news that the Consumer Price Index for February had risen by one, single, solitary percentage point. This was appreciably less than had generally been predicted.

The news brought renewed pressure on the Bank of Israel to cut interest rates at once. Until last night, however, there was no sign that the central bank was willing to take the plunge. To do so would, of course, entail an implicit admission by Governor Michael Bruno that he had acted somewhat hastily in raising interest rates by one percent only last month. Speaking on radio yesterday Governor Bruno seemed reluctant to make any such admission.

That previous decision of his, he explained, had been prompted by the rising volume of borrowing in the economy which remains a problem. The reason given for the decision earlier had been the temporary surge of inflation following the last devaluation of the shekel.

The surprisingly - nay, astoundingly - low inflationary rise in February was yesterday attributed by the bank also to seasonal factors, notably the drop in the prices of fruits and vegetables, and of clothing. Seasonal factors were plainly at work, but it should not have been beyond the capacity of the central bank to take them into account in its own forecasts.

It seems the central bank had made the wrong calculations, then jumped to the wrong conclusions. That was apparently not too difficult, given the bank's current tight money mind-set, which originated in Yoram Avidor's free-spending policies, but which has resulted in a great deal of needless hardship and which, in any case, has become more an impediment than a trigger for economic recovery.

The trouble with the bank, even under the able governorship of Michael Bruno, is that it tends to be one step behind developments. The bank had not asked for the Treasury's view on interest rates before raising them last month. Had it sought the ministry's counsel, it would have been told that no such move was warranted, and that caution was the order of the day.

But to err is human, and it is to be hoped that the bank will learn from its mistakes.

Sporting Purim presents

PURIM is traditionally a time for the giving of presents, and the Israeli tennis team certainly gave the nation a remarkably well-timed gift when they beat Czechoslovakia in the Davis Cup competition on Sunday.

Seeded third in the Davis Cup, Czechoslovakia are one of the greatest tennis powers in the world, and nobody had considered that the Israelis had the slightest chance of vanquishing them, especially as the tie was being played on Czechoslovak home ground. Yet they achieved what had seemed to be impossible. Coming at a time when the country is plagued even more than usual by "affairs," controversies and splits, this victory on the field of sport is more than ever welcome.

But such a triumph is not merely a diversion from our troubles, it is a proof of our increasing prowess in the arts of peace, of which sport is one.

Rather ironically, it was a Czech, who did not play for his country, that may have contributed indirectly to Israel's victory. Just before the Davis Cup tie began, Miloslav Mecir, ranked sixth in the world, beat Ivan Lendl, also a Czech, the world's number one player, in the final of a major tournament at Key Biscayne, Florida. Amos Mansdorf suggested that, after this great win, Mecir's first game against Mansdorf on Friday came as something of an anti-climax to the Czech, who indeed played below his true standard.

Even if this diagnosis is correct, it does not detract in the slightest degree from the credit due to Mansdorf for sizing up the situation so quickly and taking advantage so effectively of his opponent being slightly below form. Mansdorf went on to win his second match, against Karel Novacek, by a similar application of intelligence, skill and determination.

While Amos Mansdorf has become a national sporting idol, we must not allow veteran Shlomo Glickstein to fade away into the shadows. It was his extraordinary ability to rise far above himself that gave Israel their crucial second victory on Friday. What is most pleasing about the overall Israeli achievement is that it was due to national pride, team spirit, meticulous preparation, hard work and high resolve.

All too often Israeli sporting teams have displayed a conspicuous lack of these qualities.

There are some intriguing political aspects to the victory in Czechoslovakia. Firstly, the Czechs - officials, players and crowd - treated the Israelis warmly and hospitably. This is greatly to their credit, even if it does not herald an early thaw in the ice of formal relations between harshly communist Czechoslovakia and the State of Israel.

Israel are now scheduled to play India, in India, in July. The Indian government recently refused to allow Israeli table-tennis players to enter their country for a world tournament. Will they default their match against Israel in the Davis Cup? The only alternative they have under the rules is to abandon their home court advantage and to play here. This would be a very strange thing for them to do.

One complaint about Israel TV coverage of the event: it was much too skimpy. This should be rectified by the time the next round is played.

BATTERED

(Continued from Page One)

"A woman doctor who was treating me one day took me aside and said: 'Why do you go on suffering. I left my own husband because he slapped me.'"

One young mother told the committee that after she left her home she could not find shelter. "For a whole week, I just wandered around the streets with my baby who had pneumonia. There was nowhere to go."

And a fourth woman said that after her husband beat her, her son would clean the blood from her face.

Ruth Rassic, who runs the shelter for battered women in Herzliya, told the committee that some 50 per cent of those turning to her for help reported that they had suffered miscarriages or given birth to children who were physically defective as a result of the violence they sustained while pregnant.

Describing one case, she said: "I was amazed at the strength of a woman who arrived at our shelter with five broken ribs, bruises and

head injuries. Somehow, she still managed to carry on."

Yesterday, Rassic said she believed the Welfare Ministry underestimated the number of beaten wives. The U.S. gave figures of violence committed against one in four married women, she said, and there was no reason to think the rate would be lower here.

She went on: "There are simply not enough shelters to cope with the number of women who need them. At Herzliya, we currently house 11 women and 12 children, but I turn away three out of every four who come to us because I just don't have the room."

There are only four such shelters in the country.

Rassic said she believed that women were now more willing to take action against violence by their husbands and that society should provide the means for them to do so.

Police attitudes were still poor, she claimed. Official policy was to record every case of wife battering, "but this was rarely done."

AN AMERICAN REPLY TO SHLOMO AVINERI

Israeli hutzpa

Abraham H. Foxman

YOUR OPEN letter ("Soured Promise," *The Jerusalem Post*, March 10) reveals, much to my dismay, that self-deception, dissimulation and arrogance in the wake of the Pollard affair cut much deeper in Israel than I had imagined.

Rather than facing the unpleasant consequences of moral disrepute at home, you launch a broadside attack against American Jewry for taking the Pollard case far more seriously than has Israel. It's a cheap shot, Shlomo, not worthy of your talents.

Your central thesis is that the Pollard affair unveiled a pervasive and underlying insecurity among American Jewry, manifested by the need to put distance between ourselves and Pollard's criminal behaviour in the eyes of the gentiles. This reaction, you say, is typical "galut" mentality, exposing the American dream as just another nightmare of Jewish exile.

For someone who has spent so much time visiting and lecturing in the United States, your misreading of American Jewry is astonishing. Of course, we were outraged by the Pollard episode. Of course, we were quick to call for a thorough investigation of the spy operation (which, to our regret, your government was so slow to undertake) and the punishment of those accountable. But you grossly misinterpret our response. We raised our voices out of concern for Israel's security and not, as you suggest, to ingratiate ourselves with the "goyim."

It was not "galut" mentality or fear of an anti-Semitic backlash from the Pollard debacle that brought resounding criticism from the American Jewish leadership. It was because Jonathan Pollard violated American law purportedly on behalf of an ideal we cherish - love of Israel.

In so doing he and his co-conspirators committed a grave breach of trust against Israel's most important ally and affected our ability to help forge close U.S.-Israeli ties. What we reject is the inference that support of Israel legitimizes criminal action against the United States. That's not an expression of "collective responsibility." That's common sense.

FROM THE outset of the Pollard affair, Israel's leadership has treated this venal act in a cavalier and equivocating manner that borders on contempt for American sensibilities. In so doing, Israel has provided her critics with more ammunition than they ever dreamed of possessing and has left her supporters without a plausible accounting so as to put this deplorable episode behind us.

American Jews had every obligation to speak out, both against Pollard and the inept handling of the controversy in Jerusalem. Not for our sake, but for yours.

You ask why American Jewish leaders felt compelled to "pontificate on matters of criminal justice." The fact is American Jewish organizations have a long history of participating in the U.S. judicial system.

Whether it be filing *amicus curiae* briefs on religion-state issues, calling for prosecution of racist groups or demagogues who threaten the public order, or on a host of related issues affecting minority rights in a pluralistic society, our voices have been heard. Pollard's actions were morally indefensible, on an issue of vital concern to American Jews - U.S. trust and friendship toward Israel. That's why we spoke out.

No, Shlomo, our abhorrence of Pollard's crimes does not exemplify "galut" mentality. Nor, for that matter, if we took pride in what Pollard did would that make us "emancipated Jews." What you can't seem to understand, or appreciate, is that our patriotism as Americans need not be at the expense of our identification as proud Jews or committed Zionists.

I am, above all, amazed by your failure to distinguish between the position of American Jewry and that of other Diaspora communities. Are you serious when you compare us with Jews in Egypt under Nasser, and in Iran under Khomeini, or the persecuted Jews living in the Soviet Union?

Or are you projecting your own illusions of "ghetto Judaism" onto a free, if not guilt-free Jewish community, one which is well-accepted in the mainstream of American life?

THE POLLARD case has not sent American Jews running for the shelter. Sure, we were outraged by the act of Israel operating a spy ring in the heart of the U.S. defence establishment. But not because Pollard was a Jew. It is the monumental stupidity and breach of faith that so disturbs us, and not the religion or identity of the American spy.

You impugn our motives as infused with anxiety about an anti-Semitic backlash. Fifteen months have passed since Pollard was arrested and the Israeli spy operation has been exposed. In all that time, there has been little, if any, anti-Semitism that resulted from this sorry affair. Nor is there any indication that Pollard's sentencing will trigger such malice.

The fact is that the Jewish experience in America is far too secure to be undone by a single event such as the Pollard scandal. After all, wasn't the execution of the Rosenbergs a far more ominous episode for American Jews? And yet, in the ensuing decades, Jews flourished in America unlike they have in any other nation.

INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH, the spectre of dual loyalty, occasionally conjured up by our enemies, far more preoccupies Israelis than it does American Jewry. The question of divided allegiance, raised by Pollard himself in his defence, has not resonated in the U.S. as it has in the Israeli press and, undoubtedly, in Friday night parlour discussions in Israel.

This misplaced concern, it would

appear, results more from the "doctrine of Diaspora fallibility" than a realistic assessment of the status of American Jews.

Our attitude is not one of self-righteousness, smugness or complacency. True, there has been anti-Semitism and we continue to remain vigilant against the ugly forces of extremism and racial hatred. But, unlike some Israelis would have it, the wolf is not at the door. And we are not sitting on our luggage anxiously expecting a pogrom.

You accuse us of behaving like "trembling Israelites in the street" now when the going got tough. How quickly you forget, Shlomo, how tough it was in the past, defending the Suez invasion, coping with the settlement on the Liberty, defending the settlement policy, challenging the president over Awacs and the Reagan Plan, and getting caught by surprise over the annexation of the Golan Heights and East Jerusalem.

Do you think it was easy making the case for Israel while the IDF bombardment of Beirut was driven home nightly in vivid colour on American television newscasts? However much we were disconcerted by these policies, we neither shrunk from our Jewishness nor did we waver in our support for Israel. And we aren't "cringing" when we disavow Israeli espionage against the U.S. in the strongest terms.

IF THERE is any cowering before the gentiles, it was done by the State of Israel. Wasn't it the massive outburst of criticism from America, and not domestic political pressures, that finally brought Israel's government to its senses and set the "nervousness" was in Israel, and fortunately, regarding the consequences of compounding injury to an ally with the insult of promoting the Israeli culprit.

You say the Pollard case is causing unprecedented unease and malaise among American Jews. What hubris. If there is any collective neurosis among Jews over the Pollard affair, it exists in Israel, not the United States.

It comes from the dissonance of declaring the Pollard scandal a "rogue operation" and then rewarding the rogues. It's the sense of national guilt over using, abusing, and then abandoning Pollard. It's you, not us, whose conscience is troubled by the moral cowardice of the Pollard affair.

You are quick to chastise American Jews for dissociating themselves from Pollard, while in Jerusalem there is only disquieting silence about his fate. For us he is a criminal. For you, Pollard may be a Zionist hero. Don't now, in your self-righteousness, lay your guilty feelings at our doorstep.

Don't call upon American Jews to make a *hesbon nefesh* over Pollard. If there is any soulsearching to be done, it is in Israel.

The writer is Associate National Director, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

Our best asset abroad

Michael Bar-Zohar

I WAS surprised and pained by Professor Shlomo Avineri's sharp criticism of American Jews. Like him, I of course disagree with some of the hysterical comments recently expressed by a few Jewish figures. But those reactions were isolated and uncharacteristic and should be regarded as such.

On the other hand, I can understand and justify the wrath, frustration and pain expressed by most leaders of American Jewry following the Pollard fiasco.

It is very easy to stick labels on people, and in America the reaction of the Jews in America to that of the servile kneebending of European or Oriental Jews which characterized their attitude before the gentiles for centuries. But the reaction to the Pollard affair is utterly different; it stems not from an insecurity or inferiority complex, but from what we, Israelis, have been asking from American Jews for the last 40 years.

Since the birth of the State of Israel, we haven't spared any effort to involve U.S. Jews as much as possible in the life of our country. We ask them to buy our bonds and give to the UJA, to contribute to our defence funds and social funds and museums and universities and what not. We ask them to identify with every move of ours and plead our cause before every political, economic and government institution in the U.S.

We ask American Jewry to act as a pro-Israel lobby in Washington; we send their notables to confer with congressional leaders; we urge their presidents to besiege the White House and Capitol Hill and exert pressure for the preservation of Israel's vital interests. We ask them to meet cabinet members and influential politicians to help obtain larger aid for Israel, to combat arms sales to Arab countries, to smooth diverging attitudes or nascent rifts between Israel and the U.S. administration.

Whenever an Israeli public figure lands in the U.S., we want them to be there to greet us, listen to us, cheer us, and then spread our word to the U.S. government and media. In many cases, American Jewry are almost our official spokesmen. They speak in our name to thousands of American opinion makers; and they do so with such passion and devotion that one could think Israel's national interests are much more important

to them than anything else.

We have made U.S. Jews our ambassadors, our bankers, our alter ego in the U.S. And they've been active on behalf of our country much more than any other American ethnic group is active for its former homeland.

IN ANY other country but the U.S., even half of those activities would be enough for hostile circles to question Jewish loyalty to American national interests. In any other country - and I have personally experienced it in Europe - even a hint of active sympathy for Israel was enough for local Jews to be accused of dual loyalty and therefore be openly criticized and distrusted.

The U.S. is the only country in the world to tolerate such devotion by a segment of its population to a foreign nation. It is also the only country in the world whose Jews are so deeply involved, and identified, with the State of Israel.

It's true that we Israelis have our criticisms of American Jewry. We want them to make aliya and settle with us in Israel; we want them to participate in the rebirth of our nation with their life and blood, not only with their money and moral support. We also want a larger proportion of American Jewry to become involved with pro-Israel activities. But such criticisms cannot refute the simple truth that there is no better Israeli ally than American Jewry. At times I yearn to see such love, respect and idealistic devotion to Israel among Israelis, as I find among U.S. Jews.

I KNOW American Jews. I have been travelling across their country for years, meeting them, speaking to them and asking for their help. I have always been struck by the degree of unconditional support Israel could expect from them. I am always impressed by the lack of criticism on their part. "We will do and obey" (Exodus 24:7) could be their pledge. In the rare cases where somebody would rise in a Jewish meeting and question Israel's policy, he would be hushed by his peers. We don't have the right to criticize, they would say, we are here to help.

I very firmly believe that U.S.

Jews do have the right to question and criticize some of our actions. If we want to obtain the unity of the Jewish people and achieve mutual respect and joint action, we have to underscore the fact that Israel is the land of the entire Jewish nation.

Jews in America or elsewhere, who help and devote their efforts, money and time to Israel, have a full and legitimate right to tell us what they think of our achievements and mishaps. We may or may not accept their advice; but we should welcome it at all times.

More than any other ethnic or religious minority in the U.S., American Jews are identified with a foreign state. And when Israel, so beloved, so cherished by American Jews, commits a tremendous blunder like the Pollard affair, our Jewish brothers, our ambassadors, our spokesmen, our fund-raisers, our lobbyists, are the first to be exposed to the fall-out. They have the full right to tell us how revolted and shaken they are with this new episode of the march of folly that a branch of our government performed in their land.

Those who refuse them this right should not ask for their devoted help and open involvement. But those of us who see in the Jewish people our most precious asset abroad should encourage them to speak frankly and candidly. When they sharply criticize us they do not fear for their hide; they fear lest Israel - which is their Israel too - might cease to be the "chosen people and light unto the nations" that our founding fathers had forged in their dreams and deeds.

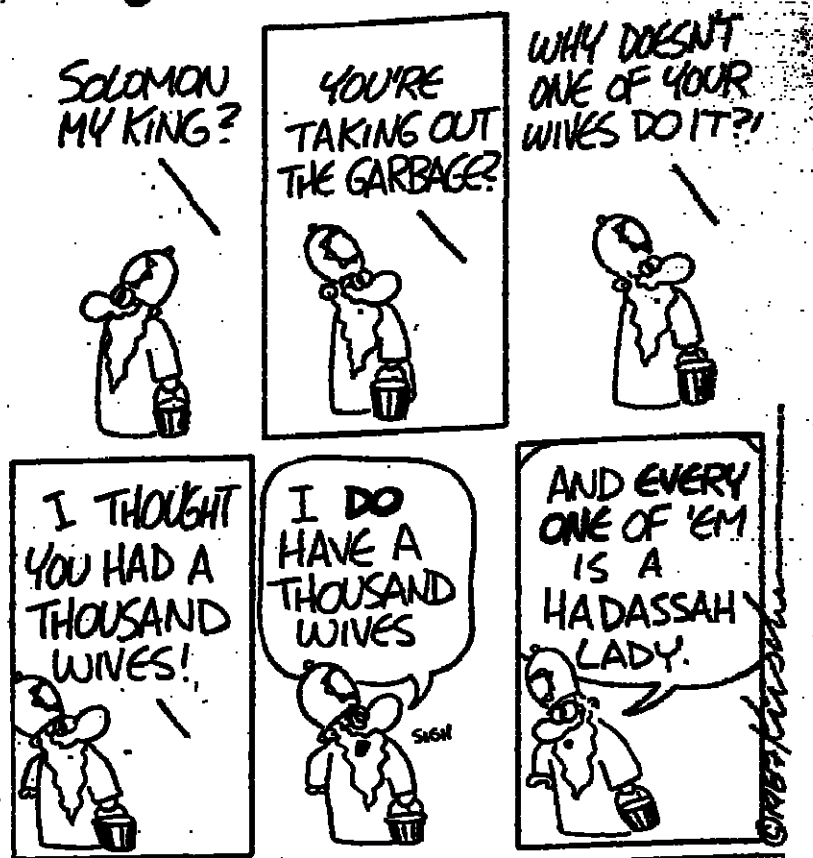
The writer is an author and former Labour MK.

PENFRIENDS

CHUCK SCHOFER (24), of 12301-J Silvergate Way, Germantown, Maryland 20874, USA, would like correspondents in English, preferably female. His interests include skiing, softball, American football and travelling.

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Dry Bones



READERS' LETTERS

MAINTAINING DUAL LOYALTY

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - It was with rising anger that I read Shlomo Avineri's article entitled "Soured Promise" (March 10th). Mr. Avineri took the American Jewish community to task for acting like *galut* Jews over the Pollard affair.

American Jews do feel vulnerable on the point of dual loyalty, mainly because no other group in the U.S. has such a strong commitment to a foreign country. I, as a dual citizen, have been asked how I can maintain my loyalty to both countries. My answer is that I can, as long as I always understand and respect specific responsibilities of trust I may undertake for either country. This is where Pollard failed and by so doing has placed the question of divided loyalty high on the agenda.

American Jewry knows full well that it does not live in Utopia. Guilt by association does exist. Look, for example, at what occurred during Japanese-Americans during World War II.

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - The letter of readers Caspi and Weintraub (March 4) misses the point when it comes to the ideal of aliya and the relationship between Young Judaea and Hadassah.

The question is not one of "promotion" of aliya, but rather one of education towards aliya. If Young Judaea wishes to reach the thousands of American Jewish youth who are unaffiliated, it is important to seriously consider how the movement is going to present itself to those youth. Before one teaches aliya, one must first instill a strong Jewish and Zionist identity. The question is one of process, not of ideology.

Young Judaea enjoys full autonomy. Judaea consistently supports movement decisions, although Hadassah leaders may have advised against such decisions. Young Judaea membership cards clearly

state that "aliya is the primary goal of Young Judaea." Not only have funds not been cut, as implied in the above-mentioned letter, but they have been increased substantially over the years (and not at the expense of commitment to aliya). I would like to further point out that Hadassah subsidizes several aliya activities for Hadassahim, including the activities of *garinet* aliya. Hadassah also subsidizes our joint university programme with Oranim, which is specifically designed for movement members exploring the option of aliya.

In addition, Hadassah assistance was instrumental in the establishment of Neve Ilan in 1971, and Keturah in 1973, both founded by former Young Judaeaans.

NEAL LEVY
Director,
Young Judaea Israel Programmes
Jerusalem.

YOUNG JUDEAEA AND ALIYA

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir, - I read Joanna Yehiel's article "Hadassah's retirement policy discriminates" (March 13) with considerable surprise.

As far as I myself and the National Board of Hadassah are aware, the issue of retirement of academic physicians was settled to the satisfaction of all concerned, when we reached agreement with them more than a year ago. The issue of retirement age for other women physicians was never raised.

In addition, no one has since informed us of any grievance on the subject. Moreover, I have no recollection of any call from Advocate Frances Raday, nor that I ever refused to communicate with her since then. It is true that I told your reporter when she queried me over the telephone that the issue she raised was completely new to me and that I was therefore in no position to discuss it with her at that stage.

RUTH W. POPKIN
National President
Jerusalem (New York) Hadassah
Joanna Yehiel comments: I am delighted to hear that the Hadassah hospital women doctors will get a fair hearing and even support from Hadassah leaders in the U.S. - Now go for it!

THE BIRDS OF ISRAEL

Uzi Paz
Photographs by Yossi Eshbol



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